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**LXI. EUROPEAN COMMERCE,**  
*shewing new and secure Channels  
of Trade with the Continent of  
Europe, &c. By J. JEPSON ODDY.*  
*Continued from Page 455.*

**I**T is with great satisfaction we recommence our sketch of this valuable work, being more and more convinced of the excellency of the plans laid down in it; which, together with the importance of the subject, induce us to give as full an account of it, as our limits will allow.

Mr. Oddy divides it into seven books, and these are again subdivided into chapters, each of which are occasionally broken into sections. The first book is dedicated to the commerce of the Russian empire; the second, to Prussia; the third, to Mecklenburg in general; the fourth, to Sweden; the fifth, to Denmark; the sixth, to Germany; and the seventh and last is occupied with the trade and resources of the united kingdoms: we shall give a brief account of the contents of each chapter as they occur.

The first chapter of the **FIRST BOOK**, which is an introductory one, commences with demonstrating the facility with which commerce might be carried on between this country and the continent, by means of the Baltic Sea and the North of Germany, where it would not only be safe, but comparatively speaking easy, and highly beneficial. The author's ideas on this subject are illustrated by a brief history of the

rise, progress, and declension of the commerce of the Hanseatic towns, which were the parents and fosterers of European trade, and where it flourished earlier than in England, France, or Holland. This is followed by an account of the armed neutrality of 1780, and of the convention concluded between the northern powers and the united kingdoms in 1801: the chapter is concluded with some masterly reflections on the present state of those countries, and on the present commercial ideas of our restless and implacable enemies, the whole of which will be found in the preceding number.

The second chapter enters more immediately into the object of the book, viz. the commerce of Russia in general, which is treated under the separate heads of its extent, seas, lakes, rivers, canals, and interior communications; its produce, but more particularly iron, wood, hemp and flax, linens, tallow, and grain. After giving a general idea of the face of the whole country, its divisions, districts, &c. the author, like an able merchant, bestows some time on a brief account of its internal navigation; and here we find materials, which, were they dilated, would alone form an extensive volume. He enumerates the rivers falling into the White, the Baltic, the Black, and the Caspian seas, and into the sea of Azoph. This account is followed by another, of the canals and interior navigation of this immense kingdom, already uniting and connecting its various

seas, lakes, and rivers, from the borders of Turkey to the White Sea, and from China to Petersburg; those which are projecting, or in hand, for the purpose of rendering the internal communication more complete, are next enumerated, and will afford much useful information. From this brief sketch it will be sufficiently apparent, that if the present system of warfare continues, Russia must ultimately, in spite of herself, become the entrepôt of the whole world. With respect to produce and manufactures, Mr. Oddy only enters into a more detailed account of those principally exported to England. The whole of the various articles raised within itself being far too numerous for us to enter into at large, we shall merely enumerate his heads; these are iron, wood, hemp and flax, and their produce, including the linen manufactures; tallow, and grain. The tables which are given in this chapter will be found highly useful, but we should probably be deemed tedious, were we barely to enumerate their names: they may be considered as a series of authentic documents on their respective subjects.

The third chapter treats on the commerce of the White Sea, and its ports; and as Archangel is the only one of any consequence, the author confines himself to an account of its trade, the amount of its exports and imports, an estimate of the expense of building a ship of 500 tons, and the prices of corn for some time past, &c. The tables of its exports and imports, five in number, and a sixth on the price of grain in Archangel from 1789 to 1803, will be found highly useful for reference.

The fourth commences with a general account of the Baltic Sea, and of the ports of it, as far as connected with the Russian empire; followed by a table, shewing when they are open and when closed by the frost, and a few local customs

necessary to be known and attended to by strangers. The remainder is occupied by a brief general sketch of the trade of Petersburg and Riga, as an example of the rest, these being the two principal trading cities; and of the trade and navigation of all the ports of Russia on that sea: it also includes several useful tables: a more detailed account of the trade of these two places is given in the two succeeding chapters.

The fifth chapter then treats of the commerce of Petersburg, and Cronstadt its port; after describing these places, and their local conveniences, the author goes on with the trade in 1800, and an account of the produce brought down the Neva, and by land to the capital, which is followed by a table, containing an aggregate of the principal articles exported from Petersburg, with the number of British and other shipping employed in carrying, from the year 1787 to 1805. The remainder of the chapter is occupied with no less than twenty tables of various kinds, all of which will be desirable, for reference, to the British merchant: their principal contents are authentic documents on the quantity of goods exported from Petersburg to England, Ireland, America, and France; besides many other subjects of a more local nature. Knowledge may be divided into two kinds, such as we possess, and such as we know where to find; of the latter kind would be a complete enumeration of the heads of all the tables given in this work, but many of our readers might think us tedious did we enter more into detail; we are, therefore, in some measure compelled to sacrifice our inclination to circumstances, and to omit a more particular account of them.

The same circumstance leads us to pass over the tables to be found in the sixth chapter, which treats on the commerce of Riga, and

merely to give a sketch of its contents; these are, a general account of Riga, the articles in which it principally trades, as hemp and flax, wood, and grain; the ships arrived from 1703 to 1803; the quantity of specie imported; an aggregate of its exports; its exports to Great Britain and Ireland; and to France; its imports and exports, specifying to what place the latter are sent; a total of its exports in 1804; and it is concluded with a table of the imports of the same year: an account of the monies, weights, and measures in use at Riga, which is subjoined to it, will be found of use.

The seventh chapter is on the trade of the remaining Russian ports on the Baltic, and includes an account of that of Fredericksham, Wyburg, Narva, Revel, Hapsal, Arensburg, Pernau, Windau, and Lindau; with details of their exports, imports, and general trade. It is concluded with a brief idea of the frontier trade, and that between the Baltic and the Black Sea.

The eighth is occupied with the commerce of the latter sea and the sea of Azoph, and communicates information of the greatest importance to the merchants and subjects of the united kingdoms: the principal heads are, the ports of these two seas, and their trade; a short history of them and an account of their present state; the ships employed in the coasting trade. The author enters rather more at large into an account of the foundation, localities, rapid rise, and present state of Odessa, a rising city, on the shores of the Black Sea, about thirty miles from the mouth of the Dniester: if it be true, that it was so named after Mr. Oddy, as a compliment to his mercantile abilities and usefulness, as we have heard asserted, his paternal feelings for it may be readily accounted for: should

his plans be carried into effect, Odessa will be a place of immense consequence, both to this country and Turkey. The remainder of the chapter is occupied with a table of the imports and exports by way of those seas; a detail of their trade with Turkey; and a separate head under the title of the "Turkey trade from England through Russia, and over the Black Sea; and state of the trade betwixt Great Britain and Turkey."

We regret that our limits prevent us from giving the whole of this article: we shall, however, present our readers with the following account of the facility with which this trade might be carried on between Great Britain and Turkey.

"The interior facilities now forwarding in Russia, and the great attention to promote its commerce, will open a new channel by which the British trade to Turkey may be carried on, and no doubt it will be so if Russia considers her own interest. A transit trade can be made equally profitable to Russia as that which consists in her own produce, and as much to her interest.

"If Russia wishes to extend her navigation, she should take off all unnecessary restraints or duties, which can in any way tend to check it; for the same number of men will gain as much or more by the carrying-trade in this instance, as by cultivating the soil.

"The British commerce with Turkey may then, at a moderate expence and risk, and in a reasonable time, be carried on through Russia when Great Britain and France are at war, when the premium of insurance is high, as well as freights, and when great delays often occur by waiting for convoys.

"Hitherto, such articles of value as would bear the expence by land through Germany, has been defrayed by the premium which would have been paid for the sea risk. From the borders of Germany, overland to Constantinople, frequent robberies occur, from the nature of

the government police, so that a new channel, which we shall point out, seems preferable to the more tedious conveyance through Germany, even supposing that the Elbe and the Rhine should be joined to the Danube: these are considerations worthy the notice of those in the British Turkey trade.

"In time of war, the freight from London to Turkey has often been from 8*l.* to 1*l.* sometimes to 12*l.* per ton, and even higher, according to the nature of the article. The premium of insurance, from 18 even to 35 guineas per cent. has been paid, but with returns for convoy, which has left from 1*l.* to 2*l.* per cent. net premium to pay upon the goods, exclusive of a detention of some months for convoy. The new channel to be here pointed out will save great expence as well as time, by the way of Riga, up the D  na, and through the Beresinski canal, which will be finished this year, to join the Dnieper: this channel is preferable to that by way of Konigsburg (which will be described under that head,) Memel, Petersburg, or any other, because the goods, by way of Riga, will have to ascend a less distance against the current, and sooner get into a favourable one to descend the Dnieper to Odessa, from whence the frequent, nay, almost constant opportunities will cause great expedition. The spring and autumn would be particularly favourable to this new mode, not only in ascending the D  na, but descending the Dnieper, till the obstructions in that river are completely removed, which are already described in treating of the rivers of Russia. Supposing the merchandize was shipped from England in the end of March, to Riga, they would arrive in the middle of April at that city; and, on the canal being completed, from the great traffic which will be carried on by this channel, immediately proceed forward for the Black Sea; a month might be allowed, the expence would be trifling, as well as the risk.

"The freight from England to Riga might be reckoned about 20*s.* per ton, as most vessels to Russia go in ballast, or only part loaded. The premium of insurance in spring and

summer would be only four guineas per cent. to return two per cent. for convoy. The transit duty through Russia would be one-eighth part of the customs, as will be seen at the end of the last chapter in treating of Russia, and in some instances, by Odessa, nothing. The expence from Riga to Odessa might not exceed 50*s.* per ton, by water, and not more by the sledge-roads, part of the way in winter. The freight from Odessa, as well as the insurance, are both reasonable, as is already mentioned in treating of the trade betwixt Russia and Turkey; so that, taking the freight from England, by way of Riga, or even Konigsburg, to Constantinople, it would only be about half of that by the Mediterranean, in time of war, and the premium of insurance, altogether not more than from four to six per cent. being only from one-third to a half of the amount by the other route.

"The calculation is chiefly made to Smyrna from England, and to Constantinople by the way of the Black Sea; the intermediate expence would be but trifling. For the information of the British merchants and manufacturers, a short sketch is given of the trade collectively to the whole Turkish empire, trusting that some information may be selected therefrom, by those wishing to extend their trade to that quarter.

"The principal imports into Turkey from Great Britain consist of West India coffee—Java ditto—Pepper—Loaf sugar—Powder ditto—St. Domingo Indigo—Carolina ditto—Guatemala ditto—Louisiana ditto—Tin plates—Lead—Rice.—All these articles are of considerable consumption at this market, and generally command ready money, or short credit.

"Shalloons, common fine—Cloves—Cinnamon—Mahoots—Shallots—Kerseymeres of usual breadth—Broad-cloth—Hair-list drabs.—

"These articles, excepting kerseymeres and hair-list drabs, are of very considerable consumption, and are usually sold at a credit of 2½ and 3 months, which is generally prolonged to 3, 3½, or 4 months.

"Pimento—White ginger—Nutmegs—Fernambuc wood—Santa Marta—Logwood—Lead shot—Iron



— Irish butter. — These articles are also in general demand, but of less considerable consumption."

This chapter is concluded with the monies, weights, and measures used at Constantinople, and a few useful tables.

The ninth chapter gives an account of the Loan Bank, established by the Empress in 1772, to prevent the poor from becoming the prey of usurers: this is followed by an extended one of the Assignation and Aid Banks: the former established by Catherine in 1770, but altered to an imperial one in 1786, is something similar in design to the Bank of England. The Loan Bank for the nobility was established also in 1786, for the purpose of lending them money on their estates. The author enters largely into an account of the Aid Bank, established by the Emperor Paul in 1797, for the purpose of enabling the nobility to discharge their debts, and to protect them from the rapacity of money lenders. The Discount Bank was established for the advancing money on bills and goods the production of Russia; the author, however, concludes that their discounting nine months bills, and the lending money on perishable goods, to be injurious, rather than useful, to a commercial people. The College of commerce, or Board of Trade, is an advantageous establishment, its decisions being speedy. Mr. Oddy next gives an account of the brackers, and the regulations by which they are controlled: an useful one is, that each bracker is compelled to take any disputed goods at his own valuation. The chapter concludes with the exchange between Russia and other countries.

The tenth and last chapter of the first book, treats on the whole maritime commerce of Russia, and includes a table of ships of all nations trading to that empire.—The same, specifying the particular ports.—Ves-

sels in the coasting trade of Russia. General tables of its trade; a table of its exports and imports from 1741 to 1803; observations on the trade betwixt it and Great Britain; a table shewing the amount of the trade betwixt both nations from 1700 to 1804; the trade and navigation of Great Britain with Russia during 1800 and 1802; and new duties on importation into the latter kingdom, fixed in 1805.

On a general review of the contents of this book, we cannot but be struck with the important part which Russia probably will take, at some future period, in the politics of Europe. If she quietly and sagaciously call forth her resources, she will extend her trade to an enormous amount; much trade will produce great riches; great riches will increase her population; and should it once become equal in proportion to its extent, to that of England, her hardy sons, if poured forth in warlike array, will not only threaten Germany with subjugation, but will also strike terror into the more luxurious nations of the south.

The first chapter of the second book, which treats on Prussia, contains a general account of its seas, bays, and rivers, produce and manufactures; the latter article entering more at large into the linen manufacture of the Prussian states, of which Silesia appears to flourish most. The interruption which Germany has experienced in her trade, by the wars betwixt this nation and France, ought to instigate the Prussian monarch to assist with all his might in bringing the French emperor to reason: however, moderation may possibly be best, though his country suffers much from our quarrels.

The second treats on the trade and navigation of Memel, in general, and contains several useful tables on exports and imports, and of other

kinds, necessary or useful to be known.

The third is on Königsburg, its commerce and navigation in general; it includes many useful tables, and an account of its trade with the Black sea; it concludes with another of Braunsberg and its trade.—The account of the trade and navigation of Elbing is short, but as usual contains some tables, and occupies the fourth chapter.

The fifth chapter details the trade and navigation of Dantzic, its exports and imports, its trade in grain, wood, ashes; it is concluded with an account of the money transactions. Its warehouses and granaries are guarded curiously.

“Dantzic, from the earliest period, was the granary of the north, and to judge of its piles of warehousing for that purpose, its trade must have been considerable; indeed, no place can be better accommodated in this respect, nor better regulations to prevent fire, robbery, or any irregularity. A short digression may not be uninteresting, nor unworthy of consideration in other countries.

“The principal warehouses here are upon an excellent plan, situated upon an island formed by the river Mottlau, running close by the city on one side, and another branch, by what is called the Forestadt on the other. There are three bridges on each side of the island, at the end of streets over it, from the city to the Forestadt. In the night, all the bridges are drawn up, excepting the two at the end of the main street, across the centre of the island, communicating betwixt the old city and the Forestadt. On this island are all the principal warehouses for ashes, hemp, linens, and the extensive granaries, containing seventeen streets, besides the large centre one, running the length of the island. To guard these warehouses are from 20 to 30 ferocious dogs of a large size, amongst which are bloodhounds, let loose at eleven o'clock in the night to guard the warehouses, which are nearly equally divided by the main street, which passes over

the middle of the island, as before described. To command and to keep the dogs within their districts, as well as the passengers from harm, at the end of each of the streets, leading to the main one, are large high gates run across: no light is allowed, nor any person suffered to live on this island. These dogs prowling about the whole night, and create great terror. It would be impossible to keep property secure amongst the hordes of Poles, Jews, and others who resort here otherwise, as no exemplary punishment amongst them would have half the effect that the dread of these dogs produce.

“In winter-time, when the water is frozen over, to keep the dogs in their proper districts, there are three keepers placed at particular avenues, with whips to keep them within their range.

“No fire or robbery was ever known; and the expence to each building, with the immense property they contain, is very reasonable. Vessels, either from the interior or other quarters, lying alongside these warehouses are not allowed to have a fire, or light of any kind on board, nor is a sailor or any other person suffered even to smoke. Their regulations partly extend to all shipping lying in the harbour.”

Such a mode of guarding most probably would not be tolerated in England; but of the two evils, it is much better for mankind to be under too great restraint, than to enjoy too much liberty.—This chapter, as usual, is full of tables.

The sixth chapter treats on the trade of Stettin, the capital of Prussian Pomerania, a place of first rate importance, from its internal navigation, and communication with Austria. The author dilates on the usual heads, and gives numerous tables on its exports and imports, exchange, &c.

The seventh gives a hasty sketch of the commerce of the principal mercantile towns of Prussian Pomerania.

The eighth and last chapter of this book gives an account of the

variety of establishments, and circumstances necessary and useful to be known, such as the society of trade and navigation, assurance company, the bank, the deposit office bureau, the discount office, and Lombard banking businesses at Berlin, bill and money exchange course there; a general idea of the trade between Great Britain and Prussia, their respective exports and imports, and other similar subjects, and a variety of tables.

The **THIRD BOOK**, which treats on Mecklenburg in general, only contains three chapters. The first treats on its boundaries, produce, former state, its great agricultural improvements, its present state, and exportation of grain. The second on Rostoc, its trade, situation, and mercantile commodities, with tables, &c. And the third is dedicated to the consideration of the trade, localities, commodities, conveniences, &c. of Lubec; with many other matters of great use and high importance to the young merchant in particular.

The **FOURTH BOOK** considers the commerce of Sweden, and is divided into three chapters. The first treats on its boundaries and seas; its mines of iron, copper, gold, silver, and lead; its productions in tar, pitch, and timber; its fisheries, manufactures, lakes, and canals: it contains much interesting matter. The second, considers the commerce of its principal cities, more particularly Stockholm, Gottenburg, and Geflé. The subjects are, as usual, the commodities in which they trade, their shipping, and the localities of each, with many circumstances of a similar nature, and numerous tables.

The third chapter gives an account of the public institutions and bodies for the purposes of trade in this country; its bank, East and West India Companies; College of Commerce, of trade, and marine

society; company for diving and salvage; course of exchange; remarks on national debt; the state of its trade, amount of its exports and imports, with numerous tables.

Our limits prevent us from entering at large into an account of the **FIFTH** and **SIXTH BOOKS**, the first of which treats on the commerce of Denmark, and the second of Germany in general. The principal heads of each are similar to those already detailed, with the same minuteness, as in treating on the preceding books; the reader will, therefore, not be at a loss to appreciate the general nature of their contents. The author's industry has drawn together an immense mass of materials, and his knowledge of trade has enabled him to present something useful on every page. His reflections on the political state of the various European nations, are dictated by a sagacity which not only demonstrate him to be a man of knowledge, but that he is accustomed to discern, to reflect, and to judge: hence his conclusions appear to be the best which can be drawn in the present state of the world. It may be mentioned, that some of his predictions respecting Germany, several of which are at least six months old, are actually fulfilling at the present time. We should like to see his sentiments on the politics of Europe: in a commercial point of view, they would not only be entertaining, but highly instructive, if we can judge from the few which are hazarded in the present work.

We shall enter no farther into detail, on the contents of these two chapters, being convinced that the best we could afford, would rather injure, than further the author's cause; we shall merely recommend them to the attention of our readers.—The last book, which is entirely dedicated to British com-

merce, will form the subject of our concluding remarks, in a future number; the subject being too important, to be passed over hastily.

K.

[To be continued.]

LXII. *The HISTORY and ANTIQUITIES of DONCASTER, and its Vicinity, with Anecdotes of eminent Men.* By EDWARD MILLER, Mus. D. 4to. pp. 444, 1l. 1s. boards, 1805. Miller.

THE number of topographical works that have issued within a few years from the press, and the encouragement they have in general received from the public, is a proof of the increasing desire of the people to be acquainted with the ancient and present state of the country and its productions, both natural and artificial. When the authors of works, in this class of literature, unite a sufficient stock of general knowledge, with industry of research, they seldom fail to produce a book, not only interesting to the people more immediately situated in the places described, but also agreeable to the general reader. A mere recital of facts, put together in a desultory manner, is not calculated to please remote readers; and without a collection of anecdotes, or digressions arising out of the subject, judiciously interwoven into the body of the work, and sufficiently connected, it seldom happens, that books professedly embracing topographical descriptions are much inquired for out of the district treated of by their authors.

Thus the writers of some of our best county histories, by intermixing with the local descriptions of the towns and villages, comprised in the plans embraced by them, accounts of the great changes effected in our political laws at dif-

ferent periods, the history of ancient customs, the various modes of living, descriptions of the habits and manners of our ancestors, the biography of eminent persons, the progressive history of our manufactures, the natural history, comprising the botany, mineralogy, and zoology of each district, have produced some of the most valuable books in our language, which already become repositories to which we refer with pleasure, as authorities in all matters of inquiry, within the compass of their researches.

The work now before us is divided by the author into thirteen sections, the nine first treating of the ancient and modern history of Doncaster in a detailed manner, and the remaining four containing a description of the villages lying in its vicinity.

There is also an appendix, containing the various charters, grants, and other records, which have immediate relation to various parts of the work.

The first section contains a brief account of the West Riding of the county of York, but it is drawn up much too short, to be at all interesting.

The second gives an account of the natural history of Doncaster and its vicinity; the climate, soil, air, and water, plants, minerals, and animals. Dr. Miller thus describes the climate of Doncaster:

"The climate in the vicinity of Doncaster is, generally speaking, more temperate and equal than in most other parts of the island.—By accurate observation it has been found, that the variable state of the weather may be foretold by knowing its actual state at any given period in London; making the allowance of about three days for the volatility of the winds and clouds. It seems that the winds, blowing from the ocean, form an immense eddy or circle, in which the whole coast southward of Doncaster is enveloped.

"The winter generally commences about the middle of December, and ends about the middle of February; when we seldom experience so much snow and rain, as the inhabitants do in many parts of the island. This may be attributed to the mountains that are situated to the westward of Doncaster intercepting the clouds, which are collected and driven with rapidity from the vast Atlantic ocean. Owing to this cause, we frequently experience in the spring much variable weather from the middle of February to nearly the end of March. At this period, the north easterly winds, blowing from the northern ocean, produce an intense degree of cold; from which circumstance, both the animal and vegetable kingdoms suffer extremely.

"The winds, which constantly blow from the north and north east, during a period of six weeks, bring with them all the consequences of obstructed transpiration; producing, in the human species, rheumatism, catarrh, pleurisy, peripneumony, and asthma: evils, which at this season, ought to be more particularly guarded against by old and phthisical persons, and those of delicate habits of body.

"With respect to the other seasons of the year, no part of the world can experience more comfort, or be more happily situated than the inhabitants of this district."

In speaking of the air, the author says, that since the drainage of the country has been carried to perfection, the intermittent fever and sore throat, formerly so prevalent in this district, are now known only by their names. However, in common with all places, through which great and much frequented roads pass, a proportionate share

of contagious diseases is received, which are, however, seldom lasting, and it is very remarkable, that epidemical diseases are uniformly brought from the metropolis, or at least from the south.

"Doncaster was formerly a Roman station; for when the Romans were in possession of England, they divided it into three provinces. 1st. *Britannia prima*, containing the southern part of the kingdom. 2d. *Britannia secunda*, containing the western part, comprehending Wales. 3d. *Maxima Casariensis*, extending from the Trent northward to the wall of Severus, and sometimes even to the wall of Adrian in Scotland. At this period, Doncaster was a Roman station; and in the several itineraries is denominated *Dano*, and *Danum*, and was the identical place, according to some authors, where the *Maxima Casariensis* commenced.

"There are remains of the old Roman road or causeway still visible, at the south end of the town, and from thence to Scawsby Lees near Adwick-le-street; which may also be traced over Barnsdale, and in many other places northwards, till it comes to the next Roman station, which was called *Legocio*, *Legiolium*, or *Logecium*, now Castleford, about eighteen miles from Doncaster; but Leland and Drake are of opinion that Pontefract or Tanshelfe was the Roman *Legiolium*.

Doncaster was called by Nennius, *Caer-Daun*, by Antoninus, *Danum*, and so likewise in the Notitia, which relates, that the præfect of the Crispinian horse, under the *Dux Britannia*, was garrisoned there.—It was called by the Saxons *Dona-cerceu*, by the Scots *Donecastle*, and in the first charter granted by King Richard I. *Danacastre*."

\* The harvest generally commences about the middle of August; but in the western parts it is at least a fortnight later than in the neighbourhood of Doncaster or Pontefract. The average guage of rain is about 32 inches in a year.

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Dr. Miller, in speaking of Domesday Book, is certainly mistaken, when he says, it contains an account of how much ready money each person had in his house, what he owed, and what was owing to him.

Doncaster being situated on the great road from London to Edinburgh, is enlivened by a continual succession of travellers passing through it on pleasure or business. The High street, about a mile in length, is for width and beauty generally allowed to be the best on the road between those two cities. Doncaster has never been what is usually termed a trading town; formerly it was noted for knitted stockings, and of late years several attempts have been made to establish manufactories of various kinds, but without success. The inhabitants enjoy privileges which are rarely met with in a country town. Here are no assessments to be paid for lighting, or for paving the streets, the expence of both being defrayed by the corporation. Coals are cheap, servants' wages moderate, and corn in the market will not procure so high a price, as in most other places in its neighbourhood.

The corporation is composed of a mayor, a recorder, a town clerk, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common council men, of whom the three eldest aldermen are empowered to act as justices of the peace. The revenue of the corporation amounts to nearly 6000*l.* per annum, and we mention it to their honour, is chiefly expended in promoting the comfort and health of the inhabitants, and in improving and beautifying the public buildings and the town at large. The mansion house, erected by Paine, is a sumptuous building, and cost, together with the furniture, upwards of 8000*l.* which was paid by the corporation.

The following anecdote of a respectable man, betrays so much narrow mindedness and quibbling, and at the same time thoughtless indifference to indigent merit, as will not fail to make on the reader's mind an impression not favourable to the learning, honour, or dis-

cernment of the corporation of Doncaster.

"In the lower apartments of the town hall is the grammar-school, where the sons of freemen have a right to be taught Latin without any expence to their parents, for which purpose the corporation allows the master a salary of fifty pounds per annum. This master, according to the endowment, must be a clergyman. The corporation, when they appointed the late Rev. Mr. Crochley, master, who had been one of the tutors of Westminster-school, promised to give him the living of Rossington, provided he had fifty scholars when that living became vacant. The freemen of Doncaster, generally thinking the knowledge of the Latin tongue of little consequence in the education of their children, so few of them took the advantage of this privilege, that the master was never able to procure a greater number than forty-five boys. This poor Crochley never obtained the living; and although a good scholar, an excellent pulpit orator, and a respectable poet, died nearly broken-hearted in distress and misery!

"The sallies of the soul are o'er,  
The feast of fancy is no more,  
How oft does sorrow bend the head,  
Before we dwell among the dead."

Under the head manufactories, Dr. Miller, presents us with the following account of one introduced into Doncaster by the Rev. Mr. Cartwright.

"It does not appear that Doncaster has ever been recorded for any other trade than knitting stockings, and this to no great extent. About the year 1770, the corporation endeavoured to establish a manufactory of sail-cloth and sacks; but it did not succeed. The next undertaking was by the Rev. Edmund Cartwright, well known by his poetical works, and also for his genius in mechanics. In the year 1787 he introduced a manufactory into this town, which, as well for the novelty of the invention, as for its intrinsic merit, is entitled to particular notice. This was a manufactory of calicoes and mus-



lins, woven by machinery: though this manufactory was confined almost exclusively to these articles, the principle of the invention equally applied to every other produce of the loom. It appears almost an incredible circumstance, though true, that the inventor had never once seen the common operation of weaving by hand till after he had actually completed a loom upon his own principle. It was, however, a work of time to bring the invention to that degree of perfection to which it finally arrived. The moving power which was employed, was a steam-engine. Each loom, which would do double the work of the best hand weaver, was managed by a child: and was so constructed, that should the shuttle, which traversed at the incredible velocity of a hundred vibrations in a minute, meet with any obstruction, it instantly stopped without doing any damage to the work.

"It were much to be wished, that an invention of such importance had been as propitious to the fortune as to the fame of the inventor; which, in all probability it would have been, but for the following unforeseen accident: a very opulent company at Manchester had contracted with Mr. Cartwright for the privilege of using 500 of his patent looms, for the reception of which they erected a building of suitable extent. They had not, however, been many weeks at work with 30 looms, before the whole building was burnt to the ground. As previous to this accident, the proprietors had received several anonymous letters, threatening destruction to the mill if they persisted to work it, there is every reason to conclude that the fire did not happen without design.

"This event effectually deterred the proprietors, as well as other manufacturers, from prosecuting the invention. Fortunately, however, Mr. Cartwright had brought another invention to maturity, from which the public is now receiving very important advantages. I mean the art of combing wool by machinery. The patent for this last invention being nearly expired, the legislature, in consideration of the claims the patentee had on the public, has

granted him an extension of the patent for fourteen years longer: thus the inventor has, at present, every prospect of being rewarded for his unwearied labours and ingenuity. A circumstance which must give pleasure to every liberal mind."

The description of the country round Doncaster, occupies nearly half the volume, and we regret to find, that Dr. Miller has not made more use of that venerable record, Domesday Book; in which, if we mistake not, there is a long account of the manor of Conisbrough, with its various appendages, customs, &c. This, compared with the present state of that manor, might have afforded several curious particulars; and other instances of the like sort might have been found, where a reference to ancient customs and manners would have been highly gratifying.

On the whole, Dr. Miller has certainly provided his Yorkshire friends, and those persons who feel interested in the topography of this county, with an interesting volume, in which will be found a large portion of anecdote, and a fund of agreeable and interesting information.

From the specimens which the author has given, we should think that the stock of literary anecdote which he possesses, especially in that branch of it connected with music, might, if indolence, or some other motive, did not prevent him, be turned to a very pleasing account, in communicating his stores to the public. Cannot Dr. Miller set his literary crotchets to some tune, and produce harmonia literaria?

This work is embellished with a map of the surrounding country, and several good plates, representing the principal buildings in the town and neighbourhood of Doncaster, and are an honourable testi-

mony to the merit of the artists engaged in their execution.

**LXIII. A DESCRIPTION of the ISLAND of ST. HELENA; containing Observations on its singular Structure and Formation; and an Account of its Climate, Natural History, and Inhabitants.** 12mo, pp. 239. 6s. boards. 1805. Phillips,

**T**HE island of St. Helena, though mentioned incidentally in most voyages to the southern hemisphere, not having hitherto exclusively formed the subject of any single work, the author of the present volume has undertaken to supply the deficiency, and to give as full and complete an account of it, as a residence of five weeks enabled him to obtain. He has bestowed much attention on its geological appearance, and offers conjectures on its origin; but as facts alone will be of permanent use, and mankind will not always be satisfied with learned trifling, his descriptions alone will be most valuable, and consequently much of his conjectural labour will be spent in vain. We will, however, attempt to give an idea of the work.

The author commences with a dedication to the East India company, and proceeds with a preface, explaining the scope of his designs, and mentioning his own opinion on his own inquiries, which are manly and rational. Its concluding paragraph may possibly be esteemed worthy of notice by such of our readers as may peruse the work.

The description of St. Helena is divided into chapters, the first of which is on the situation and general appearance of the island, and includes a description of its strata and volcanic phenomena. The second contains some reflections on its origin and formation; the third, observations on its climate; the fourth,

on its indigenous and exotic productions, with the means of improving it; and the fifth treats on its inhabitants and interior circumstances.

In the first chapter, the author commences with describing the general appearance of St. Helena when seen at sea; the extent, height, and direction of its hills, and the singular disposition of its vegetating and barren parts, the former of which crown the highest situations in the island, whilst the ground towards their bases, and near the shore, is unproductive.

The author next proceeds, with giving it as his opinion, that this island most probably derived its origin from subterranean fire; though the minute details almost lead us to fancy that he thinks it impossible.

The grander outlines, however, seem evidently to be of this kind, but the various effects of climate, in all probability, have given rise to appearances on the hill sides, which might afford ground for a contrary supposition. Be this as it may, the remainder of the chapter is occupied with a description of the structure and general appearance of the hills, with their layers; of the basaltic rocks, and their various appearances; of the volcanic masses; of the volcanic earths and clays;—corresponding fabrics of the clays and rocks; remarkable differences between the exterior and interior of the island: the singular and striking scenery of the latter; an account of the perpendicular and oblique strata of broken, fissured, insulated, and conical masses of the same; and concludes with some additional remarks on the strata, rocks, hills, &c.

The second chapter, on the formation of the island, commences with some judicious reflections, on the use of theories, respecting the formation of the earth, in which the author advances all that can be

said in favour of what we have often denominated **WORLD BUILDING**. True it is, that he has not earthquakes in such abundance, nor so much under his controul, as Mr. Kirwan, but he concludes that the worst of theories will leave more or less facts behind them, which will be useful to future and similar architects. The disputes between Neptunians and Volcanians fairly prove that neither are in the right, as both lay claim to the truth of their respective vagaries. This chapter will afford some entertainment to those versed in such inquiries, but it will be no farther useful than for the facts which are incidentally scattered up and down it: we shall, therefore, pass over it, to tread on ground more secure than volcanic craters.

The third chapter, containing observations on the climate of St. Helena, commences with enumerating its advantages with respect to purity, moderate heat, and almost unruffled serenity. The thermometer ranges betwixt 52 and 84 of Fahrenheit. The author ascertains and considers the effect of the S. E. trade wind, the reason why there are no land and sea breezes; the general state of the weather and seasons, in the Ethiopic Sea, so far as connected with and affecting St. Helena. The principal objection to it is excessive dryness, a circumstance the more extraordinary, considering its situation, in the bosom of a vast ocean. Four reasons are assigned for this, and the effect of each is discussed in conjunction with some parallel considerations on the climate of India: these causes are, 1, The uniform temperature and constancy of the trade wind. 2, The want of land and sea breezes, and of periodic and variable winds. 3, The remoteness of other lands, and the inconsiderable size of the island itself. 4, The nakedness of its surface. The au-

thor proceeds with an idea of the great salubrity of St. Helena; its favourableness to longevity, and to the convalescence of invalids from India; its peculiar advantages as a station for fleets whose crews are unhealthy. He next gives a few proofs of its healthiness, from the known salubrity of the confined situations in which the inhabitants reside; from the fewness of its diseases; the total absence of the small pox and the hydrophobia; and concludes the chapter with refuting a mistake of the author of Anson's Voyage, respecting impure air.

The fourth chapter on the indigenous and exotic productions, and on the means of improving the island, is highly deserving notice, and of the East India Company in particular, inasmuch as, were the plans proposed by the author acted on with promptitude and perseverance, they would be material gainers, by any trouble or expence they might be at, in any event short of the total failure of their schemes. Corporate bodies always act slowly, and pressing concerns always exclude considerations of inferior and distant importance; but would it not answer the purpose of the East India Company to establish a kind of board for the sole purpose of carrying similar improvements into effect. It might cost them some trouble to obtain a board of practical men, and some perseverance to exclude ignorant ones; but such a thing might be done, with benefit to themselves, and to the country at large. St. Helena would be easily improved with respect to wood, the fir of the north being found to flourish equally well with the productions of America, and the palms of India: wood being an article so necessary to the company's ships, and to the inhabitants, the covering every part of the island with such trees and

shrubs as would flourish, is a matter of great importance. This chapter contains some remarks and observations on the shrubs and trees of India, which will be found not unworthy the notice of the general reader.

The fifth and last chapter is on the inhabitants and interior circumstances of the island, and contains some particulars, which may be interesting. The principal subjects, besides an account of the manners of the people, are, an account of the interior produce of the island in roots, pot-herbs, fruits, &c. of the destruction committed by caterpillars and rats; live stock, birds, and fish; the cultivation of the country by slaves, &c. The work concludes with a comparison between St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope; its advantages and inconveniences as a station for fleets, and as a military station. We shall present our readers with an idea of the native inhabitants, taken from the last chapter.

"In a situation where the inhabitants, during the greatest part of their time, are cut off from all intercourse with the world, and left to look upon the naked expanse of the ocean, it will not easily be imagined what lively interest is excited by the appearance of any ship. The arrival of the homeward-bound Indiamen is the greatest event of the year. It fills the whole settlement with alacrity and joy. They quit their gardens, flock to James Town, open their houses for the accommodation of the passengers, and entertain them with plays, dances, and concerts. These gay assemblies are enlivened by the presence of many agreeable and handsome young women, natives of the place, who, amid the general festivity, seem to feel a peculiar interest in what is going forward; probably not without some throbbing expectations of being taken from a scene, where they are weary with constantly contemplating the same objects. The appearance of so much loveliness and

beauty cast away in a lonesome situation like this, has sometimes raised stronger emotions than those of mere sympathy, in the bosoms of their guests; and the native women of St. Helena have adorned domestic life, and graced the politest circles in England and India. To such fortunate and pleasing occurrences, it may somewhat contribute, that many of the strangers, having escaped with impaired constitutions from the oppression and sultriness of an Indian atmosphere, experience a sudden renovation of health and spirits, under this mild and salubrious climate. Into minds thus exhilarated, from the effects of returning health, love easily finds an entrance.

"But whether the expectations of the ladies are often favoured in this way, or not, the pleasure and benefit derived by the convalescents from the climate tend greatly to enhance the enjoyment of their short stay here: and as the people with whom they live, are of a courteous and obliging disposition, and readily take the trouble of shewing whatever is worth seeing in the island, it may easily be supposed, that strangers will pass their time very agreeably. We love so much better to be pleased than to be instructed, that the qualities which inspire good humour and complacency, easily compensate the want of information and intelligence. The conversation of the natives is that of a plain unaffected people, chiefly conversant about their own concerns. A life of seclusion, passed upon a spot where one only sees the sky and the ocean, is not likely to make men philosophers or citizens of the world. Where the mind is limited in its views to the scenery and occupations of a petty isle, some of its conceptions will naturally betray the confined circumstances in which they arise. An observation made by a St. Helena lady, 'that the arrival of the Indiamen in England must, she supposed, make London very gay,' however it may excite a smile in this country, was perfectly natural in the situation in which it was made: for it must be remembered, that the arrival of the Indiamen makes the season of festivity at St. Helena; and is an event interesting to all, and to fe-

males in particular, big with expectation. As the writer of this was one day walking with a gentleman, who had never been out of the island, they stopped to look at a small spot of ground, where the vegetation was very exuberant, when the gentleman, lifting up his hands, cried out with great fervour, 'If St. Helena were all as fruitful as this place, it would be the noblest and richest country in the world.' The writer spoke of the wide and fertile regions of Asia and Europe, stretching like the ocean around them to immense distances, and of the comparative small size of this island; but he did not succeed in convincing the gentleman, or at least in giving him any clear and impressive ideas of any country that could be finer than his own, if it were all cultivated. So true it is, that our ideas of space depend upon experience. Yet some metaphysicians tell us, that these ideas may be acquired in a dungeon; so a man in a dungeon, or elsewhere, may reason himself into a temporary belief of the non-existence of matter. But the clear and convincing notions of things, which regulate our judgment and actions, are the fruits of experience. The above gentleman, who had lived more than threescore years on an island only twenty-eight miles round, and having only a few inconsiderable spots that are fertile, could form no clear conception of any thing richer and finer in the universe than St. Helena would be, if, to use his own phrase, 'it were all green to the water's edge.' We may smile at this simplicity; but if the familiar images and descriptions of Homer and Virgil have taken a peculiar cast from the appearance of the countries where they lived, and from the circumstances of the times when they wrote, it cannot appear extraordinary that the natives of a remote insulated rock should have their ideas fashioned after the model of their own little world.

"But, however simple they are in some of their notions, respecting other countries, they are perfectly well acquainted with their own affairs; and he, who, in dealing with them, expects to find the simplicity of shepherds or savages,

will be disappointed. In the disposal of the few articles, which their scanty means permit them to sell or barter, they are sufficiently skilful. In the little artifices of traffic, some of them speculate on very remote chances, and distant probabilities. One of them related, with apparent triumph and satisfaction, that if at any time he purchased, or was made a present of a main-topmast, main-yard, or any other essential appendage of a ship, which he could turn to future account; how he kept it in store with a provident avarice, till some unfortunate vessel, which had suffered in the storms of the southern latitudes, happened to arrive, in absolute want of these articles, when he could easily obtain his own price for them. Extensive dealers in monopoly may smile at this petty species of fore-stalling: but the principle is the same, whether exercised on a large or small scale; and whether the unfortunate object of it is a seaman in want of a main-topmast, or a community in want of bread."

With respect to the execution of the work, the language is neither elegant nor otherwise: it is rather abrupt, and the author often falls into a repetition of his ideas, particularly in the last two chapters, but conveys his meaning with accuracy, and he is not destitute of intelligence, either in selecting his ideas, or in representing them to the reader's imagination. He displays some ingenuity in his conjectures on the origin and formation of this little island, which will be read with avidity by the tyros in world-building. His magazines of earthquakes and volcanoes, however, are not well stored, or if well stored, he has made sparing use of them: he does not overwhelm or destroy whole continents, overturn mountains, overthrow nations, or rend rocks asunder, with half the facility of some of our modern geologists. He ventures to volcanize and to raise up a little island from the bottom of the sea, but it is so modestly done, as to put us in no little fear lest our pre-



sent race of world-builders should think him tame, and much too insipid for their high-seasoned palates: this circumstance may injure him in their opinion, but it may possibly raise him in those of graver men.

As a whole, however, it is not an unentertaining work, particularly in the two last chapters; the character of the inhabitants being delineated with liveliness, and the hints for improvement given with spirit and intelligence: and were St. Helena as intimately connected with the united kingdom, as several other islands less remote, we have no doubt, but the work before us would be an acceptable present to every man anxious for the improvement of the British nation. n.

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XLIV. *The DUELLISTS; or, MEN of HONOUR: a Story calculated to shew the Folly, Extravagance, and Sin of Duelling.* By WILLIAM LUCAS. 12mo. pp. 183. 3s. 6d. boards. Cundee.

**F**EW of the customs bequeathed to us by the feudal system are less worthy of toleration, and more openly practiced in despite of, and in direct opposition to the laws, to common sense, and to the gentlest and best ties of society, than duelling: and though many treatises have been written against it, and the police officers have occasionally exerted themselves to suppress it; yet from the prevalence of fashion, the timidity of those who ought to suppress it, if not to punish its agents, or from the universal neglect of the principles of common reason, humanity, and revelation, it still triumphs, and still finds advocates, even amongst men who ought to shew us better things. That the neglect of Bible Christianity is the primary cause of its prevalence,

and that the unmanly practice would quietly and silently expire, were all men religious, there can be no doubt. The man who regards the precept, "thou shalt do no murder," will never fight a duel; and he who can turn his other cheek to the smiter, will never intentionally offend, or if he does, will eagerly endeavour to make reparation.

It may not have escaped the observation of many of our readers, the circumstance is common amongst the ox tribe, that the underlings of dubious dignity are always the most jealous of their consequence; whilst those of acknowledged superiority rarely quarrel with their inferiors, and are little disposed to make a parade of their power. Thus amongst mankind, *absint insidia verba*, our peers and men of high and real honour rarely quarrel or fight; whilst our military men, whose consequence is often more than doubtful, offer us daily examples of this *manful* practice. The former are too well bred to affront, or to deny an apology if they chance to err; but the latter are often so self-important, and so far destitute of good manners and good sense, as not only to affront, but even to make a slight acknowledgment of their misconduct. Pride, then, of the worst of all kinds, personal pride, supports and cherishes the abominable custom; and in the present state of opinions in this country, the rendering of it highly disgraceful can alone eradicate the practice.

We have often wondered, that the fountain of honour has never seriously assayed to put a complete stop to duelling; more especially, as it is most prevalent amongst those more immediately dependent on himself. Much as we admire his character, we should admire it still more, would he make the attempt. It has often cost him the life of use-



ful and valuable men, it has endangered others, who must naturally be dear to him, and has threatened this country with the loss of some of his subjects, whom it could ill spare, even within our days; and who knows, so long as it shall be tolerated, what mischiefs it may produce? If his efforts should prove ineffectual, where are the dormant energies of our legislators? what opiate lulls the senses of our jurors, and induces them to give such lenient verdicts, in cases where malice aforethought is fairly proved, and where the murderer is so clearly ascertained? We are surely not to be told, that if one man deliberately attempts the life of another, and succeeds in killing him, it is not murder, the mutual risk is in our opinion no extenuation of the crime; and the openness of the act only renders it more heinous. Thinking men look up to the serious part of the legislature, for a check to this flagrant practice; and many people wonder why Mr. Wilberforce is silent on the subject; if he has already enough on his hands, has he no friend whom he can engage to undertake, or to whom he can entrust the task? Whilst his exertions in behalf of the enslaved Africans have drawn forth the well merited compliments of an inhabitant of Canton, let us hope, that it will not be in the power of posterity, to charge the friend of Africans with neglecting to attempt the abolition of a custom every way disgraceful to civilized society.

We were induced, to make the foregoing observations, from considering the inefficacy of arguments, in attacking a practice, which has its origin in pride, a passion so deeply rooted in the human breast; a passion, producing nearly the whole of the aggregated ills which afflict mankind. Duelling is the natural offspring, of uncontrolled,

unrestrained pride; consequently, arguments derived from the precepts of Christianity, the very essence of which is humility, must naturally be rejected; hence, as we hinted above, human laws alone can render the custom odious; and a series of visits to Botany Bay, or a few ignominious exits before Newgate, would render it "quite a bore," and totally unfit for modern fine gentlemen.

In reviewing a work of this nature, it will probably be expected, that we give a character, rather than an analysis of it, a tale not being a fit subject for that purpose. Mr. Lucas has bestowed some pains in rendering the wickedness of the custom obvious; he originally proposed, as he informs us, to offer a few dissuaves from it, in a pamphlet; but was induced to alter his design, from considering the want of success experienced by those who had preceded him; and, reflecting, that novel reading is the order of the day, he was in hopes that his title might bring his book under the eye of the youthful and inexperienced, and unconsciously lead them to a few simple truths, which might awaken inquiry, and eventually be the means of leading them to reason on just principles; and of fortifying their minds against the barbarous practice.

In reference to this design, the treatise under consideration may be of use; otherwise we have no expectation of its being of service; besides we have a little matter of complaint against it, viz. that it compromises too much the dignity of religion, by lowering and accommodating its simple and splendid truths, to adorn a tale, where they must necessarily, and from the nature of the case, be of an undervalued, or secondary importance. Truth is always true, in whatever company she may be found; but

she may occasionally be degraded, by the appearance of her associates. Religion ought to have a winning, but a dignified and imposing air; she ought to be worthy of our admiration, as well as our love; at any rate, she ought never to assume the meretricious air of a coquette, studious to entrap our esteem.

Besides the probable inefficacy of any arguments, those of Mr. L. are necessarily enfeebled and too much narrowed by the plan of the work, because it compels him to leave out, as to strong words, the denunciations of scripture, from which they profess to be taken, against murderers, and the unrepentant murdered, as those must necessarily be who fall.

The author may think us a little harsh in our censure, and the lighter part of our readers may think the same; but we are conscious, that our opinion will meet with supporters amongst grave men.—As a tale, however, it will admit of commendation, it being both pleasing as to its incidents, and well told: it also possesses one essential qualification, brevity. In the hands of young people, whose imaginations are more active than their judgments, it may prove of service; it may lead them to a habit of reading, awaken their curiosity, and induce them to inquire after more substantial information,

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## MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

*Under this Head it is intended to insert, in the MONTHLY EPITOME and LITERARY MAGAZINE, a short Account and Character of the principal Books recently published.*

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### DIVINITY.

**T**HE Rev. Sir Henry Moncrief Wellwood, Bart. has just published a volume of sermons, preached at St. Cuthbert's church in Edinburgh. This volume comprises fourteen discourses, and the manner in which it is composed, places its author in the most distinguished rank of writers of sermons, that this country can boast. He has rendered, by the publication of it, a most important service, not only to his own congregation, but to mankind in general, and happy must be the people who are blessed with such a pastor, possessed of such rational piety, soundness of principles, and concern for the improvement and instruction of those committed to his charge. He excels in a copious and manly eloquence, and in a well tempered zeal, accompanied and adorned by

unfeigned and genuine sincerity. We think that it is doing those of our readers, who are seriously disposed, no more than justice, to recommend this volume strongly to their consideration; it possesses a great number of beauties, which will be found of that description, that will please the more, the oftener they are recurred to.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. Shannon's practical treatise on brewing, distilling, and rectification, in one large quarto volume, presents a body of useful facts relating to each of those processes, as will be found of unquestionable service to every person interested in those branches of trade. Dr. S. gives in this work, the London practice of brewing porter, table beer, &c. the process of making good and wholesome rum, brandy,

and Hollands Geneva; the preparation of made wines, cider, vinegar, &c. and in a copious appendix, he treats on the growth, culture, pressing, fermenting, and making up of foreign wines, brandies, and vinegars, with the best method of managing them in this country. Dr. S. mentions the numerous opportunities, he has had of observing the breweries and distilleries on the continent, in Germany, Holland, and Flanders; and of the vineyards and distilleries of France, Spain, Portugal, &c. as the means of enabling him to give the English brewer and distiller all the practical knowledge of those countries, on the subjects he treats of.

#### NATURAL HISTORY.

The fourth fasciculus of Dr. Roxburgh's splendid work, on "The Plants of the Coast of Comandel," is recently published, and will prove a valuable treat to the lovers of this elegant branch of science. In this fasciculus, are de-

scribed, the following plants; viz. *Justicia Montana*.—*J. Pulchella*.—*Gratiola Monnieria*.—*G. Grandiflora*.—*Utricularia Stellaris*.—*Rottboellia Corymbosa*.—*R. perforata*.—*Gisepia Pharnaceoides*.—*Sansevieria Zeylanica*.—*Damasonium Indicum*.—*Symphorema Involucratum*.—*Laurus Involucrata*.—*Atragene Zeylanica*.—*Cyrilla Aquatica*.—*Hibiscus Cannabinus*.—*Dalbergia Volubilis*.—*D. Scandens*.—*Crotularia Jancea*.—*Hedysarum Bupleurifolium*.—*Indigofera hinifolia*.—*Xanthocymus pictorius*.—*Terminalia Chebula*.—*T. Bellerica*.—*Mimosa Eburnea*.—*M. Octandra*.

The second part of the second volume, of the "Account of Indian Serpents," published by order of the East India Directors, under the superintendence of Dr. Patrick Russell, contains three species of the Genus *Anguis*, nine of *Coluber*, and two of *Boa*, with figures elegantly coloured, and descriptions and remarks.

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### ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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HISTORY 'of ASTRONOMY for 1804, by DE LA LANDE. Concluded.

GEOGRAPHY has made considerable progress during the course of the present year: in Holland they are busily employed in constructing a map of the country, in which they employ as much care as they would in measuring a degree. M. Zach has given a chart of the triangles already finished, in his journal; and they are joined to those made by Delambre, for the grand meridian, the first

side of which was, the distance between Dunkirk and Montcassel. When all the triangles are completed, it is proposed to measure a base towards the north, for the purpose of verification: the Batavian Republic have entrusted the direction of this new chart to Col. Krayenhoff.

M. Rochon, who has communicated a more easy method of reducing distances observed at sea, in the third volume of his travels, has this year invented an instrument, which will render his calculations still more easy. He has

also published an important work, intitled, *A Voyage to Madagascar, Marao, and the East Indies*, accompanied with a geographical chart of Madagascar, a map of India, a Madagascar vocabulary, and astronomical tables for ascertaining the longitude at sea. We ought also to announce two works respecting Africa; the one, *An Historical Sketch of the Discoveries and Establishments of the Europeans on the North and West of Africa, to the commencement of the nineteenth Century*, enlarged with the voyage of Horneman in the Fezzan; with all the collections which have been made by the African Society, respecting the empires of Bornou, Cashna, and Mounou; and with a work published by that society, and translated by Cuny, who is in the employ of the minister of marine; in two volumes octavo: the other is, *The Travels of Ledyard and Lucas*, translated by M. Lallemand. We must also mention a translation, by Ch. Romme, of the English Marine Dictionary.

In the month of November last, a superb hydrographical chart of the White Sea, made its appearance at Petersburg, the execution of which was entrusted to Lieutenant General Kutusoff: many marine officers have been employed, under his direction, during the space of four years, for the purpose of collecting materials necessary for its construction. The coasts and gulfs of the White Sea, and a part of the Northern ocean, have been laid down trigonometrically; the soundings have been measured with care, and six principal points have been determined by astronomical observation.

In America, Captain Lewis has undertaken to ascend the Missouri river, to discover whether it communicates with the Eastern ocean.

The proceedings of the registry of France are continued with great

activity, there being 2000 persons employed in the 108 departments.

M. Lartigue, who has belonged upwards of thirty years to the dépôt of marine, has executed a fine map of America in relief, which represents the mountains, the islands and the sea in an interesting manner, so that even a blind person might comprehend it.

M. Coulomb has read an interesting memoir, on the effect of heat on magnetism: at 200 deg. it loses two-fifths of its power, and the whole at 700 deg. at which degree the temper of the needle commences.

In order to ascertain the highest degrees of temperature, which the thermometer will indicate, Mr. Coulomb put a pound of red hot iron, into a pound of water, with a view to demonstrate the relation of the caloric between the two substances: the water changed nine times less than the iron, and it consequently requires nine times more heat to elevate water than it does to heat the iron to a given temperature.

M. Biot has read a memoir on the magnet, at the National Institute, in which he gives, after the observations of Humboldt, an hypothesis on the magnetic centre, situated somewhere near the centre of the earth, towards the seventy-ninth degree of latitude, north of America; and he deduces a formula from it, which represents the dip of the magnetic needle, and the intensity of the magnetic powers in various latitudes. In it too we find the means of ascertaining the latitude and longitude of places with some precision; when seamen are endangered by currents and fogs, and other similar untoward circumstances.

The storms which have occurred this year, have been both numerous and violent; that of the sixth of June, so violent at Paris, ex-

tended its ravages a hundred leagues to the south and east; on the seventh it took place in Switzerland; on the eleventh in Styria; on the twenty-fifth at Montauban; on the first of July in the department of Landes, and in that of Ain; on the third at Marseilles; on the twenty-first on the Rhine; on the twenty-seventh at Gensac; on the thirty-first at Auch, where it amounted to a hurricane. During these months too, there have been many unusual inundations; storms of hail, many of which were as big as the fist; the lightning has struck the ground seven times in one day; and besides the other circumstances incident to violent storms, many people have been killed.

The Aurora Borealis, which appeared on the 22d of October, was more vivid than any that has been observed, since the year 1769;\* it was visible at Lyons, Geneva, and in all the northern countries. The mention of this circumstance induces me to revert to the cause of this phenomenon, which I have attempted to prove in my astronomy to be owing to electricity; and I may here add, in confirmation of my hypothesis, that Billing, in his Travels in Siberia, says, that the corruscations are often attended with a noise quite loud enough to be distinguished.†

The earthquake of the 25th of

August, which shook the houses at Almeria in Spain, was felt even as far as Holland; and the waters of Neris in the Bourbonnois, were agitated and raised three feet above their usual level. This calls to mind a similar effect of the earthquake at Lisbon, on the first of November, 1755, when an elevation took place in the waters of Bourbon l'Archambault, at the distance of 287 leagues;‡ this circumstance would seem to indicate the subterraneous cavities to be a great depth, and that they extend to immense distances.

Esmenard's Poem on Navigation, which was expected with some impatience, made its appearance this year, and appertains in part to astronomy: it contains some good verses, especially an eulogy of M. De Laplace; but he ought to have mentioned the immense utility of astronomical navigation, in forwarding the progress of geography, and the great service rendered by the moon to navigators; whereas he speaks of the astrolabe, an instrument never used by sailors. I feel some dissatisfaction at finding him to doubt the cause of the flux

\* It may be remarked, that the Aurora Borealis was more frequent in its appearance and more brilliant in this country, during the autumn of last year, than it has been for at least twelve years. E.

† If this be deemed a sufficient proof of De la Lande's hypothesis, he may meet with several authenticated accounts of such a noise having actually been heard; and Barry, in his respectable History of the Orkney Islands, mentions the circumstance as being quite common. E.

‡ It is a circumstance perhaps not commonly known, that on the same day a great many large fragments of a rock, named Whetstone Cliff, bordering the Hambleton Hills, near Thirsk, in Yorkshire, were separated with a tremendous crash, and precipitated into the valley below. This circumstance will probably be considered as demonstrative of a more extensive influence of earthquakes than has commonly been supposed. The neighbouring hills shew some marks of subterraneous communication; a gaseous exhalation being seen to issue from a hole in the side of one of them in cold weather, and a sensation of warmth is perceived on introducing the arm into the hole: there is a lake not far from it named Gormire, the waters of which are said to be constantly agitated. E.



and reflux of the sea, like Boucher in his poem of the Twelve Months. Blemishes like these are not to be found in the poem of M. Gudín, of which a new edition has appeared this year: he even mentions the discovery of the planet Harding.—I ought also to announce a translation of Ovid's *Fasti*, by M. Saint-Ange, as the months are designated by the risings of the stars.

The history of astronomy would be a more agreeable undertaking, did it not terminate with a recital of our losses. Of these one of the most lamented is that of Mechain, who was not only one of our ablest astronomers, but one of the most laborious, bold, [and courageous, inasmuch that he fell a victim to his exertions, like the younger Bernier, whose loss I deplored a few months ago.

Pierre-François-Andre Mechain was born at Laon on the sixth of August, 1744, where at an early age he conceived an ardent love for the science of astronomy. On his writing to me to offer his assistance to my labours, I sent him the sheets of my *Astronomy* then in the press, and he had already attained knowledge sufficient, not only to discover faults in them, but also to correct them. In 1772 I enticed him to Paris, where he was employed by Zanoni for the *depôt* of marine, and by M. Darquier in his calculations and observations: M. Doisy quickly discovered his merit, and employed him advantageously at Versailles, where he made many observations; and on the thirteenth of August 1744, his first memoir on an eclipse of Aldebaran, which he had observed at that place, was crowned by the Academy. He next calculated the orbit of the comet in 1774, he discovered that of 1781, and since that period his usefulness in this department has been great, as his exertions have been persevering. The Duke d'Ayen furnished

him with instruments with which he discovered his eighth comet; and he had the merit, besides discovering it, to be the first to give observations and calculations of its orbit. In 1782 he obtained a prize from the Academy, on the comet of 1661, the return of which was expected in 1790.

Having been admitted a member of the Academy the same year, he was forthwith entrusted with the superintendence and editing of the *Connoissance des Temps*, which immediately felt the influence of its new conductor: enriched by his labours, the volumes from 1788 to 1794 are perhaps the best which ever made their appearance since the commencement of the work in 1679.

In 1792 he undertook, in conjunction with Delambre, the grand operation of the meridian, by which it was proposed, besides determining the magnitude of the earth, to ascertain the real length of the metre. This work was not worth the time bestowed on it by two such able astronomers, and no way compensates for the losses of which it has been the occasion; but Borda pressed it with ardour, in order to determine the value of the entire circles, respecting which he had already offered his conjectures, and of which he estimated himself the discoverer. On the 25th of June 1792, Mechain therefore proceeded to measure the triangles of Perpignan and Barcelona, which he would have completed in the following year, had he not been interrupted by the commencement of the war: in 1795, however, he resumed his labours, on the side of Perpignan, in spite of the injury sustained by his constitution in consequence of a violent accident. I have already related in my *Bibliography*, the dangers and hardships to which he was exposed on the summits of the Pyrenees, and in what manner he was



obstructed till towards the end of 1798, when he was joined by M. Delambre. He was employed a long time in digesting the result of his labours, and he sent a statement of them to the observatory, where I had already, when I was director, procured him a mural, not unworthy of his industry.

Though his health had become materially impaired, and the hardships which he had undergone were extreme, yet he was not disheartened; and felt desirous of prolonging the meridian to the island of Iviza, as the 45th parallel was found to be in the middle of the whole arc. He therefore departed on the eighth of January 1804, and selected his stations with infinite labour and perseverance: after finishing his observations at Espadan, he proceeded on the 30th of August to the fourth station, at Desierto, near Cape Oropesa; and hoped to finish the remaining four in 1805, when he was seized with a fever common to the country, in consequence of the exhalations of the rice grounds, and which annually destroy many thousand people on the coast of Valencia: he died at Castillon de la Plana, on the 20th of September.

A more extensive account of the labours of this industrious astronomer, with a portrait, may be found in the journal of Baron Von Zach, in July 1800; and his last calculations, and observations on an eclipse of the sun, are in the *Connoissance des Temps* of the year XV. which has just made its appearance. Besides these, he communicated largely to the *Ephemerides* of Bode at Berlin, having preferred that collection to the *Connoissance des Temps*, since I was its conductor. He left two sons, both of whom have commenced the study of astronomy, but both have abandoned it.

On the 12th of November, his situation in the Institute was filled by M. Burckhardt, already well

known as one of the first astronomers in Europe.

Amongst the losses of astronomy, we ought undoubtedly to reckon that of the Duke of Saxe Gotha, to whom we owe the erection of one of the best observatories in Germany, and who loved and cherished all the sciences. Ernest II. Duke of Saxe Gotha, departed this life on the 20th of April, in the 68th year of his age, and the 33d of his reign, in consequence of a consumptive affection. This prince, who was ardent in his pursuit of knowledge, travelled *com amore*, observed and examined for himself, assisted in buying books, or furnished the means for their publication, the last of which he carried to such a pitch, through the medium of the Baron von Zach, as to raise him not only to a primary degree of estimation in Germany, but to place him in a distinguished rank amongst the princes who have protected astronomy, but with this difference that his enterprises were the result of his own knowledge, whilst their expences were defrayed from his economy: hence he may justly lay claim to the rare distinction of uniting the connoisseur, the author, the patron, and the taste of an enlightened scholar, to those of a generous prince.

The following is an extract from his will, written with his own hand: "The observatory at Seeberg, near Gotha, having been erected at a considerable expence, which was defrayed out of my own savings, and without the smallest assistance from the state; it having been visited, and met with the approbation of many learned foreigners; my desire is, that it be preserved and maintained for the utility of the sciences. For this purpose I bequeath the sum of one hundred and sixty thousand francs, to be paid out of my privy purse, and which I can justly call my own; to be placed in the Domain Bank, which shall pay in-

terest for the same at the rate of four per cent. per annum, without having it in their power to restore the capital: this interest to be applied to the maintenance of the astronomer, the current expences of building and repairs, the purchase of instruments, &c. These instruments, it is true, are expensive and indispensable; but as new ones cannot often be wanted, and when obtained will be included in the regular inventory of the place, the whole of course will belong to the ducal house, and will contribute not a little to raise its respectability in the estimation of the literary world. I therefore recommend, in terms the most express, this observatory to my heirs and successors; and I hope my request will be attended to; seeing that I expressly ordain it, in this my testament: and as I wish to raise no other monument to my memory, I only demand the careful preservation of the observatory. I hope too that this vanity will be deemed the more pardonable, because it will contribute to the progress of the useful sciences, and to the glory of my successors."

In a codicil, the Duke has repeated: "I expressly forbid the erection of any monument to my memory; as also of any kind of epitaph either on or about my tomb."

Baron von Zach, who has inserted this testament in his journal, has added as follows:

"I can give the most positive assurance to the lovers of science, that the will of the father will not only be fulfilled, but even surpassed by his successor, the present Duke Emilius-Leopold-Augustus, who has already manifested the most decided love for the sciences."

Flaugergues, one of our most able astronomers, has to lament the loss of his father, who departed this life at Viyers, on the thirtieth of August, 1804. Antoine Flaugergues was born in the same place on the

14th of Decemb. 1724: his taste for meteorological observations, the assiduity with which he conducted them, for 60 years, and the attention with which he compared them with the lunar points, entitles him to mention, in our present history. He was well versed in antiquarian researches, and curious in objects of natural history, of which he had formed a considerable collection: his modesty alone prevented him from publishing several works, on which he had bestowed much labour for a long period. As a good father, a tender husband, an intelligent and amiable magistrate, he is generally regretted.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Epitome*.  
SIR,

HAVING occasion, a few days ago, to call on a young artist, I found him engaged in arranging the composition of a picture, from Shakespeare's fall of Julius Caesar; in the course of our conversation, he lamented with much frankness and feeling, his want of information on the subject of *ancient costume*; and having frequently heard the same complaint from others of his profession, I should feel it a favour, would any of your correspondents take the trouble to inform me, through the medium of the *MONTHLY EPI- TOME*, if there be any detached publication expressly on the subject in quest on; the want of such must be a source of considerable difficulty to those artists who do not possess the advantages of a classical education; and I am persuaded, that a well written treatise on *CLASSIC COSTUME*, and its varieties, illustrated by appropriate engravings, (quarto size) might greatly sub-serve the interests of the fine arts, and facilitate the progress of students; such a work, moreover, might be rendered still

more useful and valuable, were the subject to be extended to the different æras, of European, and especially English history, subsequent to the decline of the Roman empire.

I am not without a hope, that, should this meet the eye of some one, who has ability, inclination, and leisure for the undertaking, the junior artists will, ere long, be furnished with the means of that information, which, in *historical painting*, at least, is of more than subordinate consideration.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD OXLEY.

Hull, September 21, 1805.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Epitome*.\*

SIR,

**I** SOMETIMES have a hope that the excess of fashion, respecting the female head, at this time, is of such a nature, as to work a cure for itself: but lest it should not, will my amiable countrywomen receive a well-meant hint from an old woman? Why should they so diminish the power of their charms over the other sex, as to exclude from view full one half of their faces? Foreheads have been long out of fashion, that charming indication in a fine face, of a noble open temper, corresponding with the well-turned swell, and commanding appearance given by this expressive feature to the whole countenance. Then went eye-brows, those delightful arches, over the love-inspiring eyes, which now are to be but imperfectly seen between the curving roll of hair which overshadows them, without the graceful negligence of ringlets falling on one side or the other. The first object that I saw thus deformed by fashion,

happened to have full round eyes, a flat face, and wide mouth. She turned hastily upon me from the top of a large staircase at a friend's house where I was visiting, and actually startled me, from the representation she exhibited of one of Solomon's lions, such as we see placed on the steps of his throne, in the pictures of the temple of Jerusalem. But there is no need to borrow images of comparison, to shew how the fair mistake in thus disguising themselves. Let but two sister beauties seat themselves side by side, and contemplate each other's profile, under the extreme disadvantage of exhibiting only a part of the nose, and lower part of the face, with that ungraceful curve over of a bushy tuft of hair, the points of which nearly touch the middle of the cheeks, rendering the eyes, only partially visible, deprived of half their brilliancy, by that disagreeable bend of hair so obscuring them; and I think they cannot fail perceiving the resemblance (to go again to comparison) of a certain lap-dog, whose front hair envelopes his eyes. Rouse, rouse ye fair, and young, resist this monstrous encroachment on your charms, and let your beautiful foreheads again be seen! I do not recommend your discovering them all at once. We are such creatures of habit, that would not please; but take discretion for your guide, and by degrees remove this obstruction to your conquests: for sure you need not be told, that more of you in the morning of life, can boast of fine fair foreheads, than of good teeth, notwithstanding all the care of the dentists of the present day. I am persuaded the vile practice of thus hiding the foreheads, originated in the malevolence of some old withered maiden lady of quality, who contrived to put her nieces upon the project, for the sake of having her

\* This communication, though not falling strictly within our plan, yet as it contains so much good sense, we readily give it insertion.

own wrinkles covered. I take up the pen disinterestedly. I am old, and hiding my wrinkles, tends to making me look younger than I am. Therefore my motive is merely to benefit the rising generation. And I cannot quit the pen without one word on the absurdity of exposing blood-red coarse elbows, on cold winter mornings, looking just like chilblains ready to burst, braving bleak winds, in defiance of future rheumatisms. O the incongruities of fashion! Arise, good sense, and vindicate thy rights! Teach young women, favoured with a happier lot in life than that of washer-women, how absurd it is to adopt from them a manner of stripping the clothing above the elbows, (which they are glad to practice from convenience) and thus exposing to view, positively the ugliest joint in the whole human frame! As to the immodest exposure of the bosom, I leave to the future stings of conscience those impures, who do it to entrap our unwary youths; but where any christian women have been led away by the ridiculous impulse of custom, I send them to look over what St. Paul says on the subject, and intreat them in love and pity to their souls, as they would close life with the dignity and joy of believers in the holy Jesus, to pause—consider closely the influence of their example on those around them, and renounce so pernicious a compliance with a fashion, marking the degeneracy of the age, and replete with evil consequences beyond computation.

As I would not merely declaim, without recommending a model by which, in some measure, the present uncouth taste may be reformed, I wish my readers to examine the portrait of an admired lady of rank of the last age, upon which suitable improvements may be made for restoring to view, charms so endearing as those I deplore the loss of from

the faces of the fair, and an example seen how a light ornament may be formed for hiding the disgusting red, or skinny elbows, without encumbering them with clumsy ruffles, or heavy sleeves. What I would have them aim at is gracefulness and ease. This portrait is Lady Bradshaigh's, in Mrs. Barbauld's *Life and Correspondence of Samuel Richardson*.

I am, Sir, yours,

AN OLD WOMAN.

September 23, 1805.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Epitome*.  
Londonderry, October 8, 1805.

SIR,

TO every person conversant with pestilential and epidemic diseases it is manifest, that in a work treating of those maladies, the climate of the country, the physical and moral attributes of the inhabitants, their political and commercial relations, with their economical institutes, and other correspondent circumstances, must be taken into consideration. It will also be necessary to take a retrospective survey of the numerous malignant and reigning distempers, which have prevailed in many parts of the earth throughout a series of ages. These are not easy tasks—they are not small undertakings—yet difficult and extensive as they are, little short of their achievement will answer the purpose; a purpose which has in contemplation objects of the first national importance.

Thus would be suggested means for obtaining the most desirable ends; the public mind would be supplied with approved sentiments on the subject, and would not be

\* In a subsequent page of our present number, Dr. Patterson announces a new work, under the title of *Disquisitions, concerning Pestilential and Epidemical Diseases*, to which work, this letter has reference.

distracted by vague and silly notions, nor be so liable, as at present, to fall a prey to ignorance and prejudice; and the medical faculty would have materials for a general plan, according to which they might be induced to act in concert, to the honour of themselves, and to the advantage of the community; whilst the constituted authorities would be furnished with grounds for acting with the necessary decision, firmness, and effect. How earnestly this state of things ought to be wished and sought for will at once be felt, if it be considered what afflictions and calamities are experienced in the places that are visited by those unrelenting foes to the human race, where the people are unacquainted with their nature, are unprepared for their assault, and professional men are at variance both in doctrine and practice. Let us ever hold in mind, that, in all cases of danger, unanimity in opinion is the first step towards preservation.

But it may be asked, Would not a work of this kind be thought a species of trespass on the province of the Board of Health, lately instituted in Ireland? No.—For, instead of interfering with the objects of that institution, the intended work is calculated to correspond with those objects; which design it would answer by circulating accumulated information on contagious and spreading distempers, in this wise preparing the public mind for receiving official doctrines, and for obeying the peculiar laws with promptitude and efficacy.

At the same time, let it not be imagined that the writer presumes to impose upon professional gentlemen a code either of theory, or of practice: he forms no such confident opinion, nor makes he such an arrogant attempt: he merely collects facts and observations, arranges them, compares them, weighs them, and to

the best of his judgment, draws from them legitimate conclusions. Thus does he endeavour, to present to the mind a store of information, to go along with the reason, to convince the understanding, and ultimately to harmonize and settle the practice, in cases of such general interest. By this process of the intellectual faculties, has he formed his own sentiments on the subject. He is likewise encouraged to make this offering to the intellect of others, by finding himself in possession of *very ample materials*, especially derived from the western world, where malignant epidemics have of late years reigned with extensive and desolating sway. He is further induced to embark in the undertaking, by reflecting, that it does not accord with the situation and pursuits of many individuals, who practise medicine, to obtain a proportionable knowledge of scattered and important facts, without which their practice must be fluctuating, inadequate, most probably pernicious. This radical want, he particularly professes to supply; and he trusts that his medical brethren will take in good part his labours in their services.

Perhaps in no object of medical research, does there exist so great a necessity, as in that before us, for separating the facts observed, from the ideas, which, in order to explain those facts, may occur to the mind of the observer. Exclusive of the prejudices which observers are known too often to take up for their own observations, we should consider, that, in the present immature state of our knowledge, relative to the nature of malignant and contagious distempers, every well ascertained fact increases our incompetent stock of information; whilst, on the contrary, the reasonings we are for the most part enabled to advance, are at best but



ingenious conjectures, which too often bias and mislead the judgment. It shall, therefore, be a principal intent of the work, here announced, to give facts unmixed with systematic speculations, and in due course, to offer such reasoning as shall seem to be fairly sanctioned by the premises, and by the principles of the several sciences that may appear to be concerned in the procedure. To this work, where facts and reasonings are thus classed, where the concord of some descriptions of men, and the benefit of all are consulted, shall not a favourable reception be expected? Without this distribution of materials, and the organised system of harmony here contemplated, if the malignant foe arrive, the melancholy consequence will be a national orchestra of woe-toned instruments, playing the "*Dance of Death*."

The more I attend to the constitution and laws of nature, the more reason have I to believe that the analogies and gradations in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms are very numerous. In addition to what I mentioned in my book\* on the subject, I may here notice, that on the American coast is found a shark, which, along with perfect foetuses, contains in its body, eggs in various states of evolution. Thus at once, by its ovo-viviparous nature, forming the connecting link between oviparous and viviparous animals, and supplying an analogy with the vegetable race, which produces both seeds and buds, the former the oviparous, and the latter, the viviparous offsprings of the individuals. Further, that species

of lizard, called the *cameleon*, which is of a beautiful green colour, upon being made captive, expires a quantity of air, with which it had been kept plump, soon shrivels, and successively exhibits faint shades of yellow, red, brown, grey, and black colours; but upon being set at liberty among trees, or among grass, it quickly regains its healthy greenness and rotundity. Now, as hydrogen gas is known to cause verdure in plants, is the air, which the *cameleon* throws out at the time of confinement, the same species of gas, for the preparation of which the animal may be provided with a pneumatic apparatus, like the electric ones of the *gymnotus* and *torpedo*, as a peculiar means of protection, or cause of salubrity, for which its natural situation in a vegetable atmosphere may be requisite? Yet more—When an ear of the sensitive oat is separated from the stalk, and touched with the human hand, it will move with singular activity as long as it is in contact with the hand. Does this phenomenon proceed from galvanic, or electric, or magnetic agency? Another analogy seems to be derived from the mineral kingdom. Mr. Tennant, with other chymists both French and English, has announced a new metal, which he names *Iridium*, on account of the variations which it assumes, changing from a deep blue to a dusky olive green, and then to a dark red.

But in pursuing this topic, perhaps, I expose myself to the farther castigation of a critic, who, I find, has passed rather a severe sentence on that part of my book, which treats of those analogies. Through the kindness of a friend, I was, a few days ago, favoured with the perusal of the 20th volume of the *Anti-Jacobin Review*, in the 57th page of which is written as follows: "We are opposed to this presumed

\* This alludes to Dr. Patterson's "*Observations on the Climate of Ireland*," published last winter, by Murray, in Fleet-street. See *Mo. Epit.* Jan. 1805.



analogy, when built on hypothesis only; not merely as it savours of French philosophy, which has been so destructive of the established moral systems of the world, but because it appears to us, opposed to the economy of nature.—The predilection of M. Mirbel and of the author, is observable in the following passage," from page 7 of Prelim. Consid. 'Though glands, &c.' Yet, in the next sentence, the reviewer omits to mention, that the author does not positively adopt M. Mirbel's supposition respecting the existence of vegetable glands, but qualifies the idea with, 'he says,' that is, Mirbel says, with whom even it is confessedly no more than a supposition, he at the same time regretting, that so little is yet known of vegetable anatomy.

"But the Doctor's propensity," continues the reviewer, "in favour of this system of M. Mirbel's, is more observable in the following passage; (from page 14, Prelim. Consid.); though manifested under a considerable cloud of diffidence."

This cloud of diffidence, perceived by the reviewer, evidently proceeds from no other cause, than a persuasion, that the inherent power of action, or irritability of plants, originates from the same principles, which the reviewer states to be decidedly the basis of his opinion, an opinion, likewise, which he assures us, has been fully established. Afterwards, it is true, the reviewer acknowledges, that the author has, "with a candour, that is observable throughout his work," inserted the doctrine of Pêchier, in opposition to the system of Mirbel. Does not this, with the subsequent explanations of Lamarck, and the physiology of Dutrouil, which the author uses on the occasion, fully acquit him of the charge of entertaining a predilection for the hypothesis of Mirbel, or for the disorganizing spirit of French

philosophism? In truth, it would give the author serious concern, to be imagined capable of subscribing, or ministering to any tenets inimical to the established moral systems of virtuous society. But he cannot conceive in what manner, or in what measure, attempts to shew that analogies subsist between the animal and vegetable kingdoms, can be construed into an offence against those systems.

In trying to unfold those analogies, the author has attempted only to trace the several links in the great chain, which unites all the works of creation. These links are composed of *second causes*, which the good bishop Hall denominates, the *messengers of God*, to despise which messengers, would be to despise HIM who sent them. We should, therefore, cherish them, and cultivate an acquaintance with them, that we may acquire a just knowledge of their nature and mission, and thereby obtain more correct sentiments, concerning the Almighty Sovereign of Heaven, by whom they were made and appointed. Instead of being hostile to the established moral systems of the world, such a pursuit manifestly tends to uphold these systems, inasmuch as it contributes to inculcate truer ideas of the Divine Attributes, to inspire us with more solid reverence for the Creator of the Universe, and thus to lead us to the fountain of all religious and moral truth. In candour, then, it cannot be said to savour of French philosophy; on the contrary, it is surely of a quite opposite savour, and will prepare the mental palate to relish food of the most salutary and nutritive qualities.

The sublime science of astronomy, which contemplates *second causes*, and traces their laws even in relation to distant planetary systems, thence forming practical deductions with perfect certainty, is

not accused with savouring of those impious tenets. No—For

“Devotion! daughter of astronomy!  
An undevout astronomer is mad,”

Is a received truth. Thus “stars teach as well as shine.” Why then might not the cultivators of other sciences, “following the example of the astronomer, investigate the laws of nature in other parts of her works, each in his respective province, without incurring the reprehension applied to what is called French philosophy?

“Read nature! nature is a friend to truth;  
Nature is christian, preaches to mankind;  
And bids dead matter aid us in our creed.”

The sage and religious Lord Verulam, considering scientific knowledge favourable to virtue, and opposed to the vain fears that haunt ignorant minds, approves of the ancient poet’s sentiments on the subject: “Quare optime, et valde sapienter Virgilius, *cognitionem causarum cum metus omnis profligatione copulavit, tanquam concomitantia*;

“Felix qui potuit *Rerum cognoscere causas*,  
Quique metus omnes, et inexorabile Fatum,  
Subiecit pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis avari.”

In searching into the secrets and ways of nature, I endeavour to follow the example of the immortal Hippocrates, the great founder of the science which I profess. He employed his senses and his reason; and by these means he laid down rules which have been excellent guides to all future inquirers. In his day certain diseases were commonly called sacred, because an ignorant and superstitious people applied no other

remedies but offerings and sacrifices, (often of the most barbarous kinds) for the removal of those diseases, which they supposed to proceed from the wrath of the gods. These diseases Hippocrates explained in a rational manner, and applied the remedies directed by the light of wisdom and experience. If he had not the boldness to attack the oracles, at least he confounded the quackery and avarice of those expiators who abused the credulity of mankind. He declared war against superstition and error only; but of the received religion, which he venerated, he was a strenuous defender. “Let us study nature,” says he, “for preservatives and remedies against our diseases; let us invoke the gods; but let us be upon our guard against ignorance, imposture, and false religion.” If principles and practices of this description are so successful, as they have proved to be, in advancing the science of medicine, why should they not be employed in promoting other branches of natural knowledge?

The several facts which are adduced in the book reviewed, to evince the proposed analogy, are sufficient to shew that it is *not* “built on hypothesis only;” and the explanations of those facts prove that it is *not* “opposed to the economy of nature.” Indeed the Reviewer, in confirmation of his “general reasoning,” makes use of the authorities that are furnished by the author; and the former decidedly embraces the opinion of the latter, that the apparent irritability of living plants is to be ascribed to their organization, and to the influence of physical agency, such as light, heat, air, electricity, and moisture, on the bases of the gaseous fluids contained in their juices.

With respect to soil, the Reviewer thinks that the author has not ascribed to its texture and organization a sufficient share of influence

in regulating the growth of plants. The author, however, begs leave to refer to the 19th page of his "*Preliminary Considerations*," where particular notice is taken of the structure and organization of the soil, and where that species is expressly mentioned, whose tenacity is adapted to the energy of a vegetable root. Yet it may be asked, what is the mechanical property of water, which renders it a support for plants, especially the herbaceous kinds, which will grow in it without a visible atom of any sort of soil? Even the moisture, suspended in the thin air of a room, will nourish some plants. An aloe, hung up in the botanical theatre, at Edinburgh, continued to vegetate for years. A mixture of decayed peat and fine sand, which forms a very light soil indeed, makes an excellent matrix for the roots of many delicate plants. As to the organic effect on land, which is ascribed to the operation of lime, namely, making it "*too light*," might not this opinion be put to the test, by mixing with the same sort of soil, an equal volume of *chaff*,

or some other substance of a similar description, in lieu of the lime? Thus would be determined in what proportion the chemical, and in what the mechanical, qualities of lime would act, in rendering earth most fit, or most unfit, for the sustenance of vegetable roots.

However, in making these few observations on those particular parts of the criticism, it is far from my intention to aim at being thought a reviewer of reviewers, especially of those, for whose ability and spirit, I entertain that respect, which I do for the writers in the *Anti-Jacobin*. On the other hand, I would shrink with affright from the task, and at this moment I venture to advance these cursory remarks, *in verity*, "under a considerable cloud of diffidence." But I am thus prompted to take a peep from the margin of the cloud, to give farther proof of the candour which obtained the approbation of the reviewer, and, in imitation of him, to shew my attachment to the cause of truth and science.

I am, Sir, yours,  
WM. PATTERSON, M. D

### THE NEW PATENTS.

**M**R. JAMES SHARPLES', of Bath, for new invented combinations and arrangements of implements and mechanical powers, and certain principles and forms of tables, useful for surveying and various other purposes. November 24, 1804.

These inventions consist, first, of two or more wheels, pullies, rings, rollers, chains, or cones, toothed or notched, with different numbers of teeth or notches, and are any how arranged, so as to be capable of being impelled, an equal number of teeth or notches at a time,

so that a successive variation or combination of their parts or points will take place, by which the number of impulses that formed them may be ascertained. These inventions are distinguished from others, intended for ascertaining distances, and counting animal or mechanical motions, by the wheels, pullies, &c. that compose the instrument, being capable of being separated and inclosed in different compartments of the same box, or in separate boxes, or in separate rooms, provided they are equally moved by the same power, a notch at a time, or, if they are rings, rollers,

&c. of different diameters, an equal portion of their peripheries.

Another part of this invention, consists in certain modes of giving motion, at the end of every revolution of one wheel, to a tooth in another wheel, upon the same axis. For the application of the combination wheels to rotatory sea-logs, great advantage will result on account of the small friction of its parts. These wheels will also extend to various useful purposes, as wind gauges, reels, and the measurement of cloth, &c. and where regular motions can be obtained from sand or water, time pieces may be constructed. The arrangement for the particular purpose of surveying, is a combination of a sling and wheel, which the patentee calls a *Geographer*. The pole of the wheel is supported by a swivel, which has a horizontal motion within a socket at the end of the pole, and a perpendicular one on its own axis. The advantage of this over the perambulator, is that it may be drawn by a horse, and that the surveyor may ride in the seat fixed on the pole. If the wheel be ten feet in diameter, and act by a crank on its axis on the numerical index, the number represented thereon, will be the number of feet, by adding a cypher to the end of it.

The original specification has some drawings and calculations affixed to it.

MR. BARNETT'S, of Lambeth, for an invention, whereby a requisite quantity of air would introduce itself into any vessel containing fluids, or a superabundant quantity of air therein discharge itself, so as to preserve the fluid in a constant state for use, notwithstanding a diminution of its quantity. Dated November 6, 1804.

This invention consists of a tube, which may be made of glass, earthenware, brass, copper, or any ma-

terial of which a tube can be formed. This tube in its shape, in the upper part, resembles an inverted syphon, and into which is to be inserted such a quantity of quicksilver, or other fluid, as will fill up the diameter thereof, at the curve or circular bottom of the instrument; the long leg, or branch of which, is to be inserted into the vent-hole, bung-hole, or aperture, in the upper part of the cask or vessel; which hole or aperture so closed, as totally to prevent any air from passing into, or out of the cask or vessel, excepting through the tube the consequence of which will be, that by every alteration, either of the quantity of the fluid, with the cask or vessel, or its state, the quicksilver or fluid in the tube will be operated upon, and will vibrate, or be forced towards the enlarged part of either of the branches of that part of the tube, denominated an inverted syphon, so as to permit a sufficient quantity of air, to introduce itself into the cask or vessel, or to emit itself therefrom, as occasion may require, immediately after which, the quicksilver or fluid, will resume its situation, operating in principle as a perpetual stopper, valve, or regulator, by which properties, this invention possesses the advantage of adjusting the atmosphere, within the cask or vessel, preserving thereby the liquor in a constant state for use, and preventing its becoming dead or flat, notwithstanding a diminution of its quantity, and also prevent its bursting the cask or vessel, during its fermentation, which it must inevitably do, when the cask or vessel is closed, with the common vent peg, and which if taken out to prevent this inconvenience, and not replaced the instant fermentation has subsided, the circulation of atmospheric air, on the surface of the liquor, will occasion it to become dead and flat, and unfit for use, both which ef-

fects, this instrument is calculated to prevent.

MR. JOH RIDER'S, of Belfast, for certain improvements on the steam engine.

This invention consists of various improvements in the steam engine, first, in lining the cylinders with a soft metal, or a composition of metal, similar to hard pewter, of a

sufficient thickness, to admit of finishing the inside of the cylinder, of such metal, by draw-boring or otherwise. Secondly, in applying a hollow piston rod, answering the purpose of an eduction-pipe. Thirdly, the order of opening and shutting the valves. Fourthly, in regulating the engine's speed, by a pendulum.

### ADVERSARIA :

*Literary, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous.*

#### LITERARY.

DR. Gregory, author of the *Economy of Nature*, and of some other publications of similar celebrity, proposes to publish in twelve parts, to make two volumes in quarto, *A New and Compendious Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*, to be completed within the year. Dr. Gregory, observes, that this dictionary will exhibit a compendium of *ALL human knowledge*, rather practical, than speculative; and is intended to correspond with the quarto edition of Dr. Johnson's Dictionary. The possessors of both works, the editor observes, will thus have, in four quarto volumes, *all the literary aid, which the English student or reader can POSSIBLY require.*

Dr. Patterson, of Londonderry, is preparing for publication, *Disquisitions concerning Pestilential and Epidemic Diseases*, with a View to obtain valid Principles whereon to found *A Civil Constitution of Medical Police for Ireland*.<sup>\*</sup> The intention of this work is to provide rational grounds on which the public may think and act in respect to this kind of disorders, and to lay before the practitioners a methodical view of principles whereon may

be erected a concentrated and concordant system of practice. To those who are acquainted with the diligent research and sound judgment uniformly displayed by the Dr. in his *Observations on the Climate of Ireland*, little more need be said, to prepare them for the appearance of a valuable work.

The fifth volume of Dr. Rees's *Cyclopædia* is just completed; and we observe, with great satisfaction, that the proprietors proceed with increased activity in the publication of this excellent work. The plates must not be considered as the least valuable part of it. To those who are not acquainted with the accuracy and correctness which the different artists engaged in this undertaking, are known to possess, it will only be necessary to refer them to the ten parts now before the public; and the industry, research, and ability displayed by the learned editor, and his co-adjutors, are worthy of the most unqualified praise. We trust, that a more rapid delivery of this estimable work, will not only be gratifying to the purchasers, but highly satisfactory to every person concerned in the execution of it; yet the variety of the articles, the extent of information, and the research shewn in every department of it, are certain indications, that

<sup>\*</sup> See page 530, et seq.



too much haste would prove extremely prejudicial to its importance and intrinsic value.

The third part of Mr. Britton's *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, is expected to appear about Christmas. It will contain a history of round churches, with illustrative plans, views, &c. of the temple church, London, and the two round churches at Northampton, and at Cambridge.

A new edition of *Ossian's Poems* has just been announced as in preparation, whose claims to preference are considerable. It will, besides being printed in a superior style, be ornamented with beautiful engravings, by Heath, and will include a view of the revived controversy, respecting the authenticity of those poems, at present a subject of peculiar interest.

A seventh volume of *Saurin's Sermons* is already translated, and will shortly make its appearance.

Mr. Cumberland's memoirs, so anxiously expected by the public, will be published this month; as will a fourth edition of his celebrated poem "Calvary; or the Death of Christ." The Memoirs are the production of Mr. Cumberland's own pen, and contain an account of his life and writings; and are interspersed with anecdotes and characters of several of the most distinguished persons of his time.

We are glad to announce the speedy appearance of Cicero's *Epistles to Atticus*, his treatises on oratory, and on morals; which from their present scarcity, fetch exorbitant prices. They will be published uniformly with Cicero's *Letters*, and will form a valuable present to the admirers of that learned writer.

Mr. Honeywood Yate has published a *Series of Letters*, containing free and candid remarks on various interesting, important, and national subjects, addressed to several public characters, viz. the

Duke of Bedford, Lord Melville, the Right Hon. W. Pitt, S. Whitbread, Esq. Lord Henry Petty, F. Honeywood, Esq. and W. Wilberforce, Esq.

Dr. Jackson will shortly publish the first part of *Practical Observations on the Febrile Diseases of Gibraltar*, which prevailed so fatally at that place last autumn. The work will also include some compendious observations on fever in general, particularly on the yellow-fevers of tropical climates: forming the ground work of a new medical inquiry, on systematic principles, into the nature, tendency, and treatment of contagious, malignant, and epidemic fevers.

Mr. Ring has just published, an Answer to Dr. Moseley's attack on the cow-pock.

Mr. Camidge, the organist of St. Peter's, York, is publishing by subscription, a *Te Deum*, *Jubilate*, *Magnificat*, and *Nunc Dimittis*; also six anthems, for two, three, and four voices: to which will be added; his last new sanctuses and responses to the commandments, and thirty chaunts single and double, the whole dedicated to the dean and chapter of the cathedral at that place.

A periodical work has lately begun to make its appearance, under the title of the *Minor British Theatre*, designed to comprehend a collection of the most admired of our English farces, with biographical and illustrative prefaces. The work is printed uniformly with Bell's *British Theatre*, to which it is designed as a supplement.

Madame de Genlis, having recently published in France, an historical romance, entitled, *The Life of Madame de Maintenon*, a translation of that work will shortly appear, in two volumes.

Mr. James Hamilton, formerly an eminent bookseller of London, is about to commence an English

periodical work at Hamburg, and to open an establishment, by means of which English literature may obtain readier access to the continent. —At present few English books are circulated abroad, except through the expensive medium of the post-office.

#### PHILOSOPHICAL.

Messrs. HOBSON and SYLVESTER, of Sheffield, have discovered zinc to be in fact a malleable metal. At a temperature of between 210 deg. and 300 deg. of Fahrenheit, it yields to the hammer, and may be drawn into wire, by keeping it at this degree of heat, during the operation. An oven, or a hollow metallic vessel, kept at a due heat, may be used for the pieces of zinc, in the same manner as the smith's forge is used for iron and steel. After this operation it still continues soft, flexible, and extensible, and does not return to its former partial brittleness, but may be bended and applied to the purposes for which it has hitherto been thought unfit, such as the fabrication of vessels, sheathing ships, &c.

M. Pacchiani, of Pisa, has discovered, or says he has discovered the radical of muriatic acid to be hydrogen. By taking from water a portion of its oxygen, by the Galvanic pile, he asserts that the water was converted into oxymuriatic acid, and consequently that the muriatic acid is hydrogen at its minimum; the oxymuriatic acid, hydrogen in its middle state, and hydrogen at its maximum of oxidation. If this be really the case, it will afford a demonstrative proof of the simplicity of the operations of nature. We have often thought that at some period, the simple combination of the matter of heat, caloric, or phlogiston, or by a better name still, fire, with the various bodies subjected to its operation in

chemical experiments; will be found to explain all the discordant opinions of our chemists, and that many of our simple or uncombined bodies, as oxygen, &c. will turn out to be merely something in combination with a certain proportion of, or to a certain degree, with fire.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

ROYAL INSTITUTION. — The lectures at this national establishment, will commence the 11th of November, and the several courses will succeed each other in the following order: viz.—Mr. Davy, on chemistry.—Mr. Allen, on natural philosophy. — Rev. T. F. Dibdin, on English literature.—Mr. Landseer, on engraving.—Rev. Sydney Smith, on moral philosophy.—Dr. Reeve, on the moral and physical history of man.—Rev. William Crowe, on poetry.—Mr. Opie, on painting.—Dr. Shaw, on zoology.—Rev. John Hewlett, on belles lettres.—Dr. Crotch, on music.—Rev. Edw. Forster, on commerce.—Mr. Craig, on drawing.—Dr. Smith, on botany.

VACCINATION.—It having been circulated in the reports of certain public associations, that the vaccine inoculation has not been embraced, in Ireland, with the zeal which its character merits, we are induced to insert the following notice from Dr. Patterson, of Londonderry. This charge, says the Dr. is by far too general, for in some districts even country gentlemen have inoculated with presumed success, an immense number of children brought to their seats for the purpose, and in some parts of Ireland the practice was early adopted by medical practitioners. I adopted it in April 1801, and was the first person who introduced it into the north-western district of Ulster; and I propose publishing the result of my practice, particularly with a view to atmos-

pherical influence. If it has not spread in Ireland with the same rapidity which it has done in other countries, we may in future have reason to congratulate ourselves on the slowness of its progress whence, according to the proverb, may result its sureness; for I am apprehensive lest the enthusiastic rapidity with which it is pursued in some countries, where thousands and tens of thousands are inoculated with a kind of magical slight,\* will eventually injure its repute. Here (Derry) where it is gaining ground, the small-pox was not in my memory, (33 years back) so long absent as it has been since vaccination began to increase, which has been the case for more than a year past.

**MARINE SPENCER.**—Mr. Spencer having made considerable improvements in his Marine Spencer, it may not be altogether useless to give our readers an idea of its construction and utility. The original idea was a girdle, or a cylindrical belt of canvas, filled with common corks; but it is now made flatter, so as to fit better to the body, 18 inches broad, and sufficiently long to embrace the chest below the arms, and stuffed with cork shavings. This girdle is fastened loosely round the body with straps and buckles, and to prevent its slipping too low, two strong tapes are brought over the shoulders, and fastened in the same manner. The cost of the whole apparatus is not more than five shillings, and from several experiments made at sea, it will effectually prevent a person from drowning. In case of persons falling overboard, any one unac-

quainted with swimming, if provided with it, might safely jump overboard, to prevent them from sinking when practicable. A corner of the seaman's locker, the inventor adds, could not be better employed than in containing one of these Spencers; and it would be a desirable appendage to a life-boat in cases where a whole crew cannot be taken in at once, as a number of persons, thus furnished, might be safely floated on shore, attached to it with cords.

The venerable pile of St. Catherine Cree Church, Leadenhall-street, which withstood the fire of London, having suffered considerable dilapidation from the all-conquering hand of time, it was judged necessary to preserve it from entire decay, by a general repair, and it is now finished. Its faded grandeur has been restored, and it exhibits a most beautiful appearance. The painted glass in the east window over the altar, considered a fine production of art, is brought to its original brilliancy. The organ, pulpit, and gallery are enriched with gilding. The Corinthian pillars, and the celebrated monument of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, with others of equal antiquity, have been beautified, and the several inscriptions repainted. The fine sculptured figure of a skeleton over the east door in Leadenhall-street, has also been preserved, and the whole external appearance of the church rendered extremely handsome.

The church of St. Dunstan's in the West has lately undergone a thorough repair. There are few churches in England of greater antiquity than this, having been built soon after the death of the saint whose name it bears, seven hundred and eighteen years ago. It fortunately escaped destruction from the Fire of London, which came very near it, on the north side of Fleet-street.

\* Dr. Patterson may not be aware, that his prediction is actually verified at this moment in London, where the reputed cases of cow-pock failure, are in most instances fairly imputable to such reprehensible carelessness.

In 1701, the old arched roof was taken down, and a square one was built, adorned with deep mouldings, and a variety of ornaments; the other parts of the church were also beautified. From the latter period till March last, it withstood the ravages of time: the monuments and ornaments were then in a mutilated state. The wainscot, walls, and pews required cleansing, and to preserve the church from entire ruin, the repairs commenced.

It now exhibits an appearance of solemn grandeur. The vestiges of its antiquity have been preserved. The pulpit, organ, gallery, and roof, are rendered handsome by gilding and painting. The beautiful figure of a Pelican feeding its young with its blood, are emblems of the Church fostering her Children. This is placed over the altar, and has been repainted. The columns of the Ionic order, between which are the Creed and Lord's Prayer, in gold letters—also a Globe between two Bibles, denoting the spreading of the Gospel over the world, are now restored to their original beauty.

Those fine paintings of Moses and Aaron, which remained so long obscured by dust, have been cleansed. They are the production of one of the best masters, and add considerably to the appearance of the whole interior. Without, the repairs are no less striking. The Men of St. Dunstan's, or the Clock Strikers, who are more admired by many of the populace, than the most elegant preacher would be within, have been put in decent appearance.

The statue of Queen Elizabeth. at the east end, together with the whole of the external decorations, assume a new appearance; and the church is again made a public ornament.

The whole of the lunatics being removed from Bethlem Hospital, the ground has been purchased by the City of London, for the purpose of building a magnificent fabric, to

be divided into Lecture Theatres, to be appropriated for History, Chemistry, Navigation, Mathematics, Philosophy, Genealogy, Chronology, and Trade, to which will be added a Library suited to the above, that will surpass any of its kind in Europe, and it is said that upwards of 250,000*l.* is already subscribed towards this great undertaking.

The Rev. Wm. Hetherington, in his life-time, enabled the Governors of Christ's Hospital to pay annuities of ten pounds to each of fifty blind persons, and the munificent additions made to the same fund by many other benevolent persons, some of whom are still living, have enabled the governors to pay similar annuities to three hundred and seventy other blind persons, making together four hundred and twenty. The qualifications for receiving the benefit of this charity are, that the petitioners shall be born of respectable parents, and well brought up: and to prevent fruitless applications, no person can receive an annuity under either of the said establishments, who has not been wholly destitute of sight for the space of the last three years, or who was not born in that part of the united kingdom called England, exclusive of Wales and the town of Berwick upon Tweed; or who has any income for life of the yearly value of 20*l.* or who has at any time during his or her life received any alms from any parish or place as a pauper; or who is, or ever was, a common beggar; or who is not of sober life and conversation; or who shall not have lived the whole three years last past in the parish or place wherein they shall reside at the time of their application for this charity.

A few days ago a large brown eagle was shot by a farmer in the neighbourhood of Aldborough in Holderness, which measured eight feet from the tips of the expanded wings, and three feet from its beak to its tail. When first discovered,

several rooks were pecking at it, which it bore with seeming indifference, it being very lean, and apparently much exhausted. The farmer fired at it with the small shot usually denominated No. 6, at the distance of twenty-five yards, broke its wing, and otherwise wounded it so much as to occasion its death shortly after: it is now in the possession of Mr. Scatcherd, of Hull. Several others are said to have been seen in the neighbourhood, and are supposed to have come from the northern continent.

It is well known that melons frequently, in certain situations, lose their circular form, and grow larger on one side than the other, and that these mishapen fruits are always bad. To remedy this, take a small forked stick, in proportion to the size of the melon, and thrust it into the ground as nearly as possible to the tail of the fruit, taking the precaution to lay a little moss between the two prongs, and suspend the melon to this fork. In a few days the melon will resume its form, when the fork may be removed, and the operation is finished. The quality of the fruit remains unchanged.

A case of the yellow fever has recently been cured in Jamaica, by sweating in the steam of hot sugar. The lad upon whom the experiment was made, was placed close to the steam of the coppers, which had an instantaneous and happy effect. The pulse fell from 100 to 70 in a few minutes; the sweat poured off in streams; his head was immediately relieved; and he did not complain of being too hot, not-

withstanding a breath of air could not enter the room, and he was surrounded with the steam of sugar from all the coppers. The process was repeated the next day, after which, the patient put on his cloaths, came down stairs, said he was quite well, and eagerly called for food.

It is said, that Dr. Robert Burton, of Bent, in the state of Virginia, has succeeded in curing the hydrophobia, by copious bleedings, and the use of mercury. We shall be glad to see this practice verified in our own country, and though we are not sanguine in its successfulness, we see nothing improbable in the circumstance, knowing the utility of mercury, in many both active and chronic specific diseases, when properly administered.

On Monday, September 30, was held, the annual meeting of the Royal College of Physicians, in Warwick-lane, when the following gentlemen were chosen officers for the ensuing year.—President, Sir Lucas Pepys, Bart.; censors, Dr. Saunders, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Franck, and Dr. Edwards; treasurer, Dr. Budd; register, Dr. Hervey; commissioners for granting licenses to persons keeping houses for the reception of lunatics, Sir Lucas Pepys, Bart. Dr. Burges, Dr. Budd, Dr. Willis, and Dr. Frampton; secretary, Dr. Mayo.

At this meeting, Dr. Price, Dr. Currey, and Dr. Turner, were elected fellows; Dr. Warren, candidate, and Dr. Blegborough, and Dr. Fothergill, licentiates.

## FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

**D**URING the late residence of the POPE at Paris, the most constant homage was paid him, by numerous exhibitions, to explain the pro-

gress of the useful arts in that country. One circumstance, however, but little known, though unparalleled in the annals of printing, deserves to be recorded. On the first



of February, his holiness visited the imperial printing office. As he went along the galleries, one hundred and fifty presses furnished him as he passed with a sheet each, upon which was given, the Lord's Prayer, in some different language or dialect. In Hebrew, Samaritan, Chaldee, ancient Syriac, Rabbinical, ancient and vulgar Arabic, Armenian, Persian, and also all the languages and letters of the Crimea, of the Malay, of Java, of Indostan, of the Mogul empire, of China, and of Tartary, in all forty-six dialects of Asia. We cannot enumerate all the European languages and dialects, but they amounted to seventy-five. Africa furnished twelve, and America the remaining seventeen. The reputation of the French press is well known, and the constant attention paid by that nation to the art of printing, even amidst their revolutionary horrors, enabled them to pass before the eyes of the Roman pontiff, whatever has been employed to improve or enrich the noblest and most useful art known to man.

A work is now in the press at Paris, entitled *Lavater, or the art of knowing men by their physiognomies*, translated from the German of that celebrated author, and preceded with an historical notice of his life. It will also be augmented with an exposition of the researches of Porta, Camper, Lachambre, and Gall; and accompanied with a physiological introduction, a great number of articles and plates, relative to physiognomy, the temperaments, the passions, and diseases. M. Moreau (de la Sarthe) is its editor, and has furnished the new articles.

#### AMERICA.

Whilst most of the nations of Europe, are rapidly advancing in the career of literature, we are glad to behold the ardor of the Americans in the same pur-

suit. Their presses have already presented them with valuable editions of several of the Latin classics. In New York, accurate editions of Cæsar's Commentaries, the *Buccolics*, *Georgics* and *Æneid* of Virgil, and the *Orations* of Cicero have already appeared, under the care of Mr. Malcomb Campbell. In Philadelphia an edition of Virgil, Cæsar, and Sallust, the *Dauphin* editions, have also made their appearance.

Corderius, *Æsop's Fables*, Erasmus, and *Selectæ Profanis*, &c. are announced as nearly ready.

The Americans are doing their utmost, towards the distribution of useful knowledge in their infant country.

The medical society of South Carolina, has opened a subscription, for the purpose of establishing a botanical garden at Charleston, in that state. The object is to cultivate plants useful in medicine, in order to enable the student, to become acquainted with the growth, and appearance of the medicine that he prescribes, and probably to be an inducement at some future period, to some person to commence a course of botanical lectures, or lectures on natural history. Should the subscription be more than is necessary for the maintenance of the garden, it is proposed to commence a library, containing the best treatises on botany, natural history, and agriculture.

Mr. Wirt, the author of the "*Letters of the British Spy*," is said to be preparing materials for a biographical view of the worthies of Virginia; the which he proposes to commence, with memoirs of Patrick Henry, a useful divine. Mr. W. possesses talents every way equal to the task.

A public academy has been lately opened at Teflis, under the direction of a Georgian scholar, Alexei

Petrief, who is also conversant in the Russian language, and has made very considerable progress in the fine arts. Every means is employed by the Russian government to make the Georgians acquainted with the language, and assimilated to the manners of the Russians, a number of Russian books have already been translated into the Georgian language, and in return the Georgian Ossian Rustawell, and the romances of the famous writer, Sergel Finogwell, have been translated into Russian.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The excavations which have been commenced at Pompeii, have been attended with great success. An ancient edifice was discovered in the month of March, in the presence of the queen and royal family, and in it were found a quantity of vases of great beauty, a number of medals, some instruments of music; and what is more valuable than all the rest, a bronze statue of Hercules killing the hind, after having arrested her course: the design and composition of this groupe is admirable.—Some paintings of great beauty were also found in the same house, amongst which are Diana surprised by Actæon, equal to the productions of Titian. It is said, that the queen will repair this edifice; she has also given orders to Venuti of Rome, to execute a miniature plan of Pompeii in marble, alabaster, and metal. This artist has already finished a similar work, representing the temples of Paestum, which has been presented to her majesty, who has also presented him with a valuable ring.

The dome of the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, at Trent, in which the celebrated council was held, fell in suddenly, at two o'clock in the afternoon of the second of July. Three persons who were in the

church, were killed by this accident.

A member of the Celtic Academy, at Paris, has discovered a method, by which any two people may correspond, and converse, without understanding each other's language. It has been approved by the academy, and will soon be made public.

A mechanic of Augsburg, named Heinke, has proposed to make known, in consideration of a certain sum of money, inventions tending to an object of no less importance, than to render abortive all military operations, if his machine be employed. He offers to furnish three machines to be examined by a committee; these are, 1. a self moving mechanism, essentially necessary to the modern military system. 2. A machine offensive and defensive, susceptible of many modifications; and 3. a military instrument to be used by water. He states, that by these, Germany would in a period incredibly short, be placed in such a formidable state of defence, that the united attacks of all Europe would not be able to make any impression.

The Spanish government has recently suppressed in the island of Cuba, numerous monastic and religious orders, and it is said, that all similar establishments in the Spanish Trans-atlantic dominions are to experience a like fate. The immediate cause of this extraordinary measure, arises from the poverty of the government, which has driven it to this expedient to raise a present supply; the consequences, however, cannot be anticipated.—The royal order, under which the sequestrations in Cuba have been levied, directed that all property belonging to religious establishments, consisting of houses and lands, sugar, or coffee plantations, and negroes, as also all mortgages, debts,

&c. due to them, should be sold, and that the monies arising from such sales should be paid into the treasury of the king, who will make provision, by daily allowance or otherwise, for the persons so dispossessed. The property thus seized is to a very large amount. The Bishop of Havannah is one of the commissioners for executing this order—the others are the governor, the intendant-general, the collector of the customs, and Don J. B. Munoz.

**FRANCE.**—By a decree of the 19th Nivose, M. Veutenat is nominated librarian and perpetual administrator of the library at the Pantheon, in the room of M. Daunau, who has been employed in other occupations: M. Jos. Flocon is appointed conservator of the same library.

Messrs. Audrey and Jean Roy have presented to the society of medicine at Paris, a favourable report on a memoir presented by M. Dubosc de la Roberdiere, physician at Vire, on the puerperal fever, and on the use of carbonate of pot-ash in lacteal diseases.

M. David has been nominated chief painter to the Emperor, and is now employed on four pictures relative to the holy feasts, and the coronation. One of them will represent the mass at Notre Dame; another of them the distribution of the eagles in the Champ de Mars; and a third the entertainment at the Hotel de Ville.

The university of Coimbra, in Portugal, was attended by 1481 students last year, of whom 28 studied theology, and 537 the belles lettres.

Few establishments of modern times are more superb, than that of the baths, both for the purposes of luxury and medicine, lately erected at Tivoli, near Paris.

The amusement of the bathers,

is also attended to, as well as the other purposes for which baths are usually constructed; a long avenue leads into a court, in which arrangements are made for carriages to draw up, and there is an easy ascent to a highly ornamented rotunda, furnished with musical instruments, books, journals, &c. for the purpose above mentioned.

On the left are placed the hydro-sulphuric baths, which are in a separate building on account of the odour which rises from them. They form a long gallery and corridor, to which are attached the cabinets of different mineral waters, twelve in number. Nine of them are destined for administering the grand *douches*,\* and which are given with peculiar neatness, and address, as in addition to this species of remedy, so powerful in many cases, they give at one and the same time, an external sulphuric bath, an emollient douche, and a glass of the water of Vichy to drink—thus the patient is under the influence of a relaxing bath, a tonic douche, and a fortifying draught at the same time.

On the other side of the rotunda, are thirty pleasure baths, each with a dressing room, couch, &c. fitted up for the purposes of luxury; and here the company may take whatever bath they prefer, of factitious waters, as sea, Seltzer, Spa, Vichy, Vals, Contrexeville, Balaruc, Plombieres, Baresges, Seidlitz, alkaline, gaseous, oxygen, hydro-carbonate, hydro-sulphuric—and generally speaking, all the other known kinds of mineral wa-

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\* Douche is a term of an import nearly similar to our *pumping*, with this difference, that the water falls from a greater height, and is conducted to any given part of the body by a pipe.

ters. They state, that the advantage of artificial waters over those of their natural springs, are, that the proportion of the ingredients of each, can be augmented or diminished at pleasure, according to the nature of the malady, the temperament of the patient, or the prescription of the physician.

These baths now make a part of the beautiful gardens of Tivoli, the idea of which was taken from our Ranelagh, Vauxhall, and Sadler's Wells; they, however, concentrate within themselves the amusements of our three English ones. The proprietors of the Mineral Baths are

M. Triaire, a physician, and M. Paul; they have cost as much as 20,000l. sterling; but though the population of Paris is far inferior to that of London, the owners derive an ample return for their capital.

It is singular, that an establishment of this kind, has never yet been attempted in London, where the efficacy of mineral waters is well understood, and where her citizens are sufficiently opulent to sally forth in multitudes to the various watering places, with which England so much abounds.

## THE FINE ARTS.

*The Editor flatters himself that this Article will be found of that Importance to the Professors and Amateurs of the Fine Arts, as to induce them to make the Monthly Epitome the principal Medium for communicating to the Public a complete Account of the various New Works in Sculpture, Painting, Engraving, &c. so that it may become a complete Repository of Intelligence in that elegant Department.*

**P**ROPOSALS have been circulated for publishing by subscription, an equestrian statue of his majesty, in military uniform. A subject hitherto unattempted in sculpture, the entire study of an artist for several months past. The height of the model four feet, and adapted as an ornament to public buildings, halls, staircases, &c. Each cast to be finished in bronze, and to be delivered in the order subscribed for, as soon as ten names are obtained. The model may be viewed on application, at Mr. Jaques's well known repository in Holborn.

Mr. Galaghan has lately finished a bust of the Young Roscius, which he proposes issuing by subscription, the subscribers to be entitled to their copy in the order subscribed for. Specimens may be seen, at Mr. Jaques's High Holborn. The admirers of this juvenile actor, may thus have an opportunity of obtaining a more sub-

stantial kind of likeness of him, than can possibly be afforded by the graver, however well employed.

Northcote has recently finished a picture of Daniel in the lion's den. The prophet is represented as looking towards heaven with pious confidence, but dazzled with the radiance which breaks from it, as the signal of his safety.

It has long been a subject of complaint, that many people well capable of producing beautiful landscapes, are often extremely deficient in their knowledge of the outlines and proportion of the various species of cattle, with which it is necessary to decorate them, and that this defect is even obvious and glaring in the landscapes of some artists, who have in other respects attained eminence. This ignorance too, has often exposed those who draw for amusement, to an error, which is obvious to any observer at the first glance, that of placing

Dutch or Flemish animals, besides being ill drawn, in an English landscape, than which nothing can be more absurd. To remedy this defect, Mr. Ackerman has undertaken a work, on the rudiments, or what may be called, the artist's grammar to the drawing of cattle, a work in a great measure a desideratum, whilst rudiments of every other kind are abundant. It is published in parts, three of which have already appeared, and four or six will complete the work. The whole are designed by Mr. Villers Huet, and two of the three, are engraved by the same gentleman, and the other by Cardon in the chalk manner: those of Mr. Huet, however, in our opinion, exceed the other, but as they stand, they

offer two modes of sketching and executing in chalk.

Mr. Ackerman is also publishing a series of heads in the chalk manner, either as examples for young artists, or to be hung up in a room, as shall be preferred; they are designed by Agar, and engraved by Nugent. They appear in numbers, containing four heads each.

Two beautiful ornamental medallion prints have lately made their appearance; the subjects, the finding of Moses, and the bringing him before the daughter of Pharaoh.

The bust of Lord Nelson, executed and presented to the court of common council of London, by the Hon. Mrs. Darner, is placed in the council chamber on an elegant marble pedestal.

### DOMESTIC INCIDENTS, EVENTS, &c.

**T**HE long meditated plan for making a receiving dock at Northfleet, will soon be carried into execution; the ground being already staked out. The expence of making it will be trifling, compared with its utility, a space of near twelve acres, being already excavated by chalk-cutters, which will be a material saving of labour. Ships after being launched, instead of remaining at Woolwich, or sent to Sheerness and Chatham, may be immediately received into this dock, and consequently rigged and fitted for sea, with the advantage of being in condition to sail at the turn of every tide; there being a sufficient depth of water to float the largest man of war in the service.—Government transports may also be collected here, instead of

Deptford, which will afford much more room in the Thames, and greater facility to its navigation. In time of peace too it will serve as a dock, in which ships can be laid up in safety, and at a much less expence than the Medway.

On Saturday, October 12, the bridge over Deptford creek was opened for foot passengers. It is built across the river Ravensborne, near its entrance into the Thames, and forms a communication betwixt Deptford and Greenwich. The committee and proprietors of this undertaking met on the bridge at two o'clock in the afternoon, when the ceremony of opening it was performed, amidst a great concourse of spectators assembled on the occasion.

Two respectable surgeons having



communicated to the commissioners of sewers, that many accidents come under their care, from short posts in and about the metropolis, occasioning ruptures and other lamentable injuries to persons coming on them in the dark; the commissioners have recommended, that not any post be permitted to remain shorter than four feet high, with the top painted white. This necessary precaution has in part been put into practice, but to insure full success, something more than a thin coating of paint seems necessary, as the number of passengers presently renders it as dark coloured as the surrounding objects: the subject is highly deserving attention.

A few days ago, an experiment was made on the Thames, of a new life preserver, in case of shipwreck, the invention of a Mr. Daniel, of Wapping.

The machine or jacket, which is constructed of water-proof leather, prepared in such a manner as to retain air, and to admit of ready inflation, supports the head, arms, and body out of the water. Several persons equipped with it, dropped from boats moored off the Old Swan, floated through London bridge with ease and safety, and then proceeded down the river: their arms were so far at liberty, as to permit them to smoke, play on the flute, French horn, &c. with as much ease, as on any land.

**British and Foreign Bible Society.**—At the first annual meeting of this society, which was held on Wednesday the first of May, at the New London Tavern, Cheapside; the Right Hon. Lord Teignmouth, read from the chair, a report of the proceedings; by which, and from extracts from correspondence, which were afterwards read by one of the secretaries, it appears, that the society had made a considera-

ble progress during the course of this year, the first of its existence. A society on a similar principle has, under their auspices, been established in the free and imperial city of Nuremberg; and a great degree of zeal has been excited in many other parts of the continent, both among protestants and catholics, for procuring and distributing the Holy Scriptures. It also appeared, that in Ireland, Scotland, and in Wales, the views of the society had been cordially embraced, and that in the two latter, collections had been made, which already amount to more than two thousand pounds.

The report and revised plan of the society's laws were unanimously adopted; and the warmest thanks of the meeting were voted to the Right Hon. the President, for his zealous, faithful, and persevering attention to the interests of the Institution. A further vote of thanks was passed respectively to the Right Reverend and the other Vice Presidents, to the Treasurer, and to the Secretary, for their gratuitous services; to Granville Sharpe, Esq. for a valuable donation of versions of the Scriptures, in various modern languages; to the presbytery and synod of Glasgow, for their resolutions to promote collections for the society; and to the several congregations throughout, from which collections have been received.

The report, together with large extracts of correspondence, a complete list of subscribers, and a state of the society's funds, have been submitted to public inspection, and delivered to the subscribers gratis.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—The first meeting for this season, of the Society of Arts, took place, at their house in the Adelphi, on Wednesday, October 24, Richard Clarke, Esq. Chamberlain of London, one

of the vice-presidents, in the chair. The proceedings of the committee of correspondence and communications, relative to the ensuing volume of Transactions, during the late recess, were read, and unanimously approved of by a numerous assemblage of the members. Several new members were admitted by ballot, others were proposed, and many valuable discoveries were announced, by the

reading of letters from their inventors, who, with the letters, were all referred to the respective committees in their several departments. Several valuable presents of books were announced, and the report of the committee of accounts was audited, which shewed the funds of the society to be in a flourishing state.

### CORRECT LIST of PUBLICATIONS IN OCTOBER.

*As the List of Books, given in the MONTHLY EPITOME, is the MOST COMPLETE OF ANY PUBLISHED, and that of Prints, Maps, Charts, and Music, the ONLY ONE OF THE KIND printed in any Periodical Publication, the Editor requests that Authors, Publishers, and Artists, will continue to transmit the Titles of their Works, post-paid; and respectfully informs them, that they shall always meet with a ready insertion, and WITHOUT ANY EXPENCE.*

#### BOTANY.

**T**HE Botanist's Guide through England and Wales. By Dawson Turner, F.R.S. A.S. and L.S. &c. and Lewis Weston Dillwyn, F.R.S. and L.S. in 2 Vols. crown 8vo. 14s. boards.

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## OBITUARY.

**L**ATELY at Vienna, in the 39th year of his age, Richard Meade, Earl of Clanwilliam in Ireland, Viscount Clanwilliam, Baron Guilford, and a Baronet. His Lordship married at Schuschnitz in Bohemia, the Countess of Thunn, third daughter of Joseph Count of Thunn, and Wilhelmina, Countess of Ulfeld, one of the most ancient families in Germany. Her Ladyship died in child-bed, Aug. 8, 1804, and left three children, Richard, the present Earl, now ten years old, and two daughters. His Lordship married secondly, Lady Shuldham, who survives him. No young

nobleman ever gave fairer promise than the deceased Lord; his person was extremely prepossessing, and his manners were pleasing. He was educated under the auspices of his mother the Dowager Countess of Clanwilliam, who has been always considered a model of virtue and propriety. As soon as he became of age, he left his native country, and becoming attached to the continent, he resided principally upon it.

Aug. 29. At Pen rec, in Montgomeryshire, aged 87, the Rev. Samuel D'Elbœuf Edwards, an acting magistrate in that county, and Rector

of Mainstone in Salop. In him were fully displayed, during a long and painful illness, the manly fortitude and pious resignation of a true christian, and in the discharge of moral and religious duties, few such examples are to be met with. To the poor he was ever a zealous friend, and few were the objects of charity within his sphere, that did not experience his benevolence and bounty; and in those institutions which tended to promote their comforts and soften their distresses, he was ever the liberal, but unostentatious supporter. It must be unnecessary to add, that he is as much lamented, as he was revered when living by all classes of society.

August 21. At Sidmouth, James Currie, M. D. of Liverpool. He was the only son of a clergyman of the church of Scotland, who held a living in Annandale, in the shire of Dumfries, and there the Doctor was born in 1736. His first education was under the immediate superintendence of his father, after which he was removed to Dumfries school, then conducted by Dr. Chapman, well known as the author of a treatise on Education. He here cultivated mathematics, as well as improved himself in classical learning; a union of knowledge at all times essential to the right direction of the mind, but more especially serviceable in that profession to which he was destined. After finishing his school education, he went to Virginia on a commercial speculation, but the disputes which arose between Great Britain and the American Colonies put a stop to his mercantile pursuits, and diverted his genius into a more congenial channel. On his return to Europe, 1776, he resided sometime in London, from whence he removed to Edinburgh, where he followed the study of medicine, and its corresponding sciences with unremitting attention four years; but took his degree at Glasgow, the expectation of a valuable appointment rendering that measure necessary, and as he had not completed his terms, he was precluded from the academical honour for some time at Edinburgh. In his expectations, however, he was disappointed; the place, that of physician to the staff at Jamaica, was

disposed of before his arrival in London; but Dr. Currie, not willing to return home, accepted an invitation from Liverpool, went thither, soon gained considerable practice, and married. In 1785 he warmly supported the plan of erecting a lunatic asylum at Liverpool, and had the satisfaction of seeing this benevolent object carried into effect. Having been elected a member of the Medical Society of London, he communicated to that respectable body a paper on Tetanus and convulsive diseases, which may be seen in the 3d volume of their memoirs. In 1792 he presented to the Royal Society "An Account of the remarkable Effects of a Shipwreck on the Manners, with Experiments and Observations on the Influence of Immersion in fresh and salt water, hot and cold, on the Pores of the living Body." This important paper was inserted in the Philosophical Transactions of the same year, and procured the author the honour of being elected a member of that learned body. Pursuing the same train of inquiry and experiment so well struck out in that paper, the Doctor favoured the world with the result in an 8vo volume, in 1798, entitled "Medical Reports on the Effects of Water, cold and warm, as a Remedy in Fever and other Diseases."

Medical publications of later time have exhibited such a nauseous assemblage of visionary theory, and imaginary conceit, with a few facts and experiments, ill observed and worse conducted, that it is an inexpressible satisfaction always to the rational mind to observe a writer adopting the simple course of Sydenham. Such was the case in the present instance. The unintelligible jargon which has disgraced medical language of late years, and the eager wish to *invent theories* rather than to promote *truth*, have no place in this work: and the reception it met with, both at home and abroad, is a convincing proof of the importance of the discovery, and the intrinsic merit of the book.

In 1793 we find Dr. Currie walking out of his proper line, and instead of administering to the mind and body diseased, setting up as a political empyric. We allude to the letter to

Mr. Pitt, under the signature of Jasper Wilson. It is written in a gloomy spirit of discontent, much in the style and manner, and just with the same veracity of foresight and prediction, as the famed prognostications of Dr. Price, in which he prognosticated the ruin of trade and commerce from the American war. The two doctors, however, though very good men, were false prophets. Their pamphlets were well written, were once popular, succeeded in frightening many men, women, and children, but are now no more.

Since that period Dr. Currie has appeared to great advantage as the biographer and editor of the works of his countryman Burns. His memoir of that singular son of genius is remarkable for its plainness, candour, and judgment. If criticism was not his talent, he has not violated truth by silly pretensions to it, and his life will be read when more laboured productions will be neglected.

A pulmonary complaint, which long afflicted him, at length compelled him to relinquish his practice and the place where he had been so long beneficial. His departure from Liverpool was alike honourable to himself, and the inhabitants. He received their thanks and their regret, expressed in terms which shewed the respect in which he had been universally held. From Liverpool he went to Bath, in quest of health, but after a few months residence there he fell a victim to his complaint, and thus ended a life, which though it was not splendid and long, was virtuous and useful.

Sept. 9. In Russel-square, aged 63, Joseph Robley, Esq. late of the Island of Tobago, where he had filled the offices of Governor and Perpetual President with the highest reputation. He was born and educated at Keswick in Cumberland. He first introduced the plough into the West Indies with effect; and by his superior skill in the management of his plantations he amassed the wealth of 30,000*l.* per ann. 40,000*l.* of which he has bequeathed among his relations and friends, and the remainder to his nephew and heir, John Robley, Esq. of Russel-square.

At Llanrothal, Herefordshire, at the advanced age of nearly 100 years.

and in the full possession of all his faculties, the Rev. Martin Barry, Vicar of that Parish, which living he held for 65 years.

Sept. 14. At the Manse of Craigie, Scotland, the Rev. Dr. Shaw, Minister of that parish.

Lately at Dublin, Mr. Richard Burnett, Bookseller.

Sept. 15. At Edinburgh, the Rev. Alex. Allan, of the Scotch Episcopal Church, aged 63.

Sept. 17. At his lodgings, Edinburgh, Allan Macleod, Esq. late Proprietor and Editor of the London Newspaper, *The Albion*.

Sept. 23. At Knightsbrige, the Rev. Alex. Cleeve, B. A.

Sept. 24. Mr. Byrne, of Titchfield-street, an engraver of the first eminence; whose works will prove his best monument.

Lately at Colford, in Gloucestershire, aged 74, the Rev. Edward Evanson. This gentleman was formerly Vicar of Tewkesbury, which he resigned on account of religious scruples. He published three Sermons, and afterwards engaged in a controversy with Bishop Hurd on the Subject of Prophecy. He was also the author of a work entitled, "The Dissonance of the four generally received Evangelists," which appeared in an 8vo volume in 1799; he published in the same year, in 8vo, "Arguments for and against the Sabbatical Observance of Sunday, by a Cessation from all Labour, contained in the Letters of sundry Writers in the Theological Repository, with an additional Letter to the Rev. Dr. Priestley, in Continuation of the same Subject." In 1794 he published "A Letter to Dr. Priestley's Young Man."

October 1. At Howden, aged 70, greatly regretted by a numerous and respectable acquaintance, Mr. James Thwaites.

Drowned in the River Thames, in consequence of the upsetting of a boat, Geo. Peters, Esq. eldest son of Mr. Peters, Banker, in St. Mildred's court, and Geo. Clarke, Esq. Capt. R. N. Capt. Clarke was well known and respected in the service. During the Egyptian expedition he commanded the *Braakel*, of 64 guns, and afterwards protected the English factory at Smyrna. During the



above expedition, his humanity gained him the esteem of Gen. Sir Ralph Abercrombie, when at a considerable expence, and whilst himself and most of the officers of the Braakel were severely indisposed, Capt. Clarke was the means of saving the lives of 350 of our wounded soldiers, who were brought off the plains of Egypt, and had been sent away by many of the other ships. This gallant officer gave them up his own cabin, and fed and nursed the maimed with his own hands. He then went to the Commander in Chief, Lord Keith, and procured surgeons sufficient to attend them.

At Cheltenham, David Scott, Esq. He was a gentleman no less respected and esteemed as a private individual than he was eminent and honourable in his mercantile and public capacity. By his death the parliamentary representation of the Scotch Burghs of St. Andrew's, Perth, &c. becomes vacant. His remains were interred in the family vault in St. Mary-la-bonne burying ground. The funeral was attended by the relations, and most intimate connexions and friends of the deceased. It was conducted with the greatest solemnity; but, at the same time, in that plain, unostentatious manner, so consistent with the uniform tenor of his life. Mr. Scott had, for many years, laboured under a disease, the cause of which had baffled the skill of the most eminent medical men in the kingdom, which was found, on opening the body, to have been a schirrus in the pylorus.

At Brighton, Mrs. Crouch, late of Drury-lane Theatre, whose beauty and talents have been a subject of admiration and praise to every poet and critic for the last 25 years. She was the daughter of Mr. Phillips, a Solicitor, who mixed with his professional pursuits, a regard for the fine arts, and was the author of several pamphlets, which made a noise in their day. Miss Phillips, at a very early age, displayed such powers of voice, and such a natural taste for music, that he determined to cultivate the talent. Miss Phillips made her first appearance in her 15th year, in 1780, in the character of Mandane. Her appearance was that of a meteor. It dazzled from excess of brilliancy

every spectator. There was nothing spoke of and nothing listened to but the exquisitely beautiful Miss Phillips—and certainly a more captivating form, more simple and more unaffected in manners, more graceful, and yet timid in deportment, never appeared on the stage. She possessed the most seductive expression without the consciousness of beauty, and with the most glowing firmness and tone of health she blended the finest delicacy of action. Her success was unbounded. She made a sort of epoch in the Theatre, and was pursued and idolized by the town. She passed over to Ireland in the summer, and was equally a favourite there. In a short time she gave her hand to a Mr. Crouch, a midshipman, whose showy person and address won her first affections. The peculiar character of Mrs. Crouch, as a performer, was, that she joined talents almost in an equal degree, which are rarely to be met with in the same person—she was equally good as a lyric artist, and as an actress. She was equally superior, both as a singer and a speaker; and she was the only heroine of the English opera, who had the address in the dialogue, to keep up the impression and influence which her song had made. It was a rare and peculiar excellence, for it belonged to herself alone.

For some years past, her fine powers have yielded to indisposition; and with the prudence which good sense always dictates, she retired from her profession. Her active powers however, were not subdued, and she had a principal share in the planning, fitting up, and conducting the Musical Saloon of Mr. Kelly, to whom her death will be an irreparable loss. Her resignation in her last illness was most exemplary. She was told that her recovery was beyond the power of human skill. She then called to her bedside her friends, told each of them what she wished to be done after her decease, and concluded, by beseeching that they would think of it no more, but leave her to the resignation of a contented spirit. She died in her 44th year.

Mrs. Hook, wife of the eminent composer. Her talents and virtues

render her loss irreparable: as an artist her productions are well known; as an authoress, she was always successful, and as a wife, a mother, and a friend, invaluable.

Oct. 7. At his apartments in Kensington Palace, aged 72, universally respected and lamented, the Rev. Seth Thomson.

Oct. 13. At Barrachny-house, her Grace Charlotte Duchess Dowager of Athol, Countess of Athol and Baroness Strange; in her own right, Lady of Man, and sole heiress of that island. Her Grace was daughter of James, second Duke of Athol, widow of John, late Duke of Athol, and mother to the present Duke, besides whom she has left six younger children. Her Grace was in the 75th year of her age.

Oct. 11. In the 52d year of his age, at Perth, after a few days illness, the Right Hon. George Kinnaird, Baron Kinnaird of Inshure, in Scotland. His loss will be long and deeply felt by his family, and by those who were honoured with his friendship: his Lordship is succeeded in his title and estates by the Right Hon. Charles Kinnaird, member in the present parliament for Leominster, now Baron Kinnaird.

At his residence, Cornwell-house, Bath, in the 73d year of his age, Edward Leighton, Esq. one of the magistrates of the county of Surrey.

At Haverfordwest, aged 85, the Rev. Wm. Tashe, M. A.

Oct. 21. At the house of Robert Holt Leigh, Esq. M. P. Duke-street, Westminster, in the 52d year of his age, William Clarke, Esq. Banker, Liverpool. As a scholar his acquirements were of the first order; and as a man of taste in the various departments of the fine arts, his opinions were judicious and correct. To his exertions while in Italy in the early part of his life, which he visited on account of his health, his intimate friend Mr. Roscoe and the public at large are indebted for many of the valuable documents in the Life of Lorenzo de Medici, the unpublished poems of that prince being copied by his own hand from manuscripts in the Laurentian Library. His exertions whilst abroad, have also been farther serviceable to the literary world, as they assisted in laying the foundation for that magnificent un-

dertaking, lately presented to the public by Mr. Roscoe, the Life and Pontificate of Leo the Tenth. During a lingering and hopeless illness, his literary labours were unwearied, the whole of the proof sheets of the last-named work having undergone his critical revision, which is affectionately mentioned by his friend in the preface. The urbanity of his manners, the gentleness of his disposition, the liveliness and innocence of his wit, were attractions of the most powerful kind in the circle of his intimate friends, and delightful to those who had even the pleasure of a transitory enjoyment: he will long be remembered and regretted by the best and most enlightened of his native place. His spirits failed him not to the last, and he met his fate with the courage of a good man, and with the resignation of a good Christian.

Mrs. Second, the celebrated singer. Her professional talents were well known and acknowledged by the public, and in private life she was greatly respected and esteemed.

In his 31st year, at his seat at Nortell Park, near Pontefract, Sir Rowland Winn, Bart. He served the office of High Sheriff for the county of York in 1799.

#### MILITARY OFFICERS DECEASED.

At Guzerat, in the East Indies, in October, 1804, Lieut. George Thomson, of the 65th Reg. of Foot, and eldest Son of the Rev. Dr. Thomson, of Edinburgh.

In November, in his 21st year, at Surat, in the East Indies, Henry John Maddison, Lieut. in the 11th Reg. Native Infantry.

Dec. 24, 1804. At Madras, Capt. Gawler, of the 73d Reg. of a wound he received from a spear, while leading his men to victory. Few officers enjoyed a greater share of esteem and respect while living, and no one had died more sincerely and deservedly regretted.

At Calcutta, where he had gone for the recovery of his health, Major John M'Lean, Aid-de-camp to the Commander in Chief of Ceylon.

At Bengal, Lieut. Col. Clapton, an officer of distinguished merit, and much regretted.

Aug. 5, 1805. At Barbadoes, of the yellow fever, after four days illness, aged 36, Col. Brinley, Quarter-master-general, and Barrack-mas-

ter-general of his Majesty's Forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands, and Lieut. Col. of the Nova Scotia Fencibles. He was Lieut. Col. of and commanded the 1st battalion of the 4th (or King's own) regiment of foot for the last three years preceding his appointment in the West Indies. He arrived at Barbadoes on the 14th of July last.

August 21. At Quebec, of the gout in his stomach, Peter Hunter, Esq. Commander in Chief of the Troops in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada, Lieut. General in the Army, and Colonel of the 9th Reg. of Foot. He was an excellent officer and a good man, and by his death his Majesty has lost a zealous and honest servant.

September 6. At Gatton Park, aged 16, Alex. Wood, Esq. eldest son of Col. Wood, of Gatton, and Senior Cornet of the 11th Light Dragoons. This young officer's fate is peculiarly hard; never having known illness, he was attacked by a fever and dysentery, at Braybourne Lees barracks, on the coast of Kent, and did not apply for medical assistance till too late, and his loss is universally regretted.

September 12. On board his Majesty's ship *Phoenix*; Lieut. Henry Steel, of the Royal Marines, (a native of Berwick) in consequence of the wounds he received in the gallant but bloody engagement between the *Phoenix* and *La Didon*.

September 20. Capt. Tyrel, of Ballindery, in the county of Kildare.

September 27. Near Enniskillen, Sir James Rivers, Bart. of the 3d Dragoon Guards, in consequence of a gun accidentally going off when on a shooting party.

September 30. By a fall from his

horse, between Worcester and Droitwich, James Bird, Esq. Captain in the 96th Regiment of Foot. His death will long be regretted by those who were observers of his indefatigable conduct in military duty, and his urbanity of manners and amiability of disposition in the various relations of private life. His remains were interred at Worcester with military honours; the attendance was numerous and respectable, and both corps of volunteers were present on the occasion, the general of the district being particularly anxious that every mark of respect should be paid to the memory of so valuable an officer.

October 17. At Portsmouth, Lieut. Hugh Maclean, of the 90th regiment. He was buried in the garrison chapel, with military honours.

At Headingley, near Leeds, universally regretted, Benj. Newsom, Esq. Captain in the 17th Regiment of Native Infantry, in the service of the Hon. East India Company, on the Madras establishment.

At Belfast, aged 82, Edward Hunt, Esq. late Major in the 39th Regiment of Foot, and since Captain of Invalids.

James Rooke, Esq. of Bigswearehouse, Gloucestershire, a General in the Army, Colonel of the 38th Regiment of Foot, and M. P. for Monmouth. The General was sporting on the Trellick Hills, and had just fired at a bird, when he fell dead from his horse in an apoplectic fit. Though far advanced in years, he possessed a considerable portion of activity, and the full enjoyment of his faculties. His promotions in the Army, were Colonel, 17 Nov. 1780; Maj. General, 28 Sept. 1787; Lieut. General, 26 January, 1797; General, 29th April, 1802, and Colonel of the 38th Foot, 2d August, 1796.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—In consequence of the Success experienced by the present Proprietors of this Publication, and the increase of Correspondence and literary Intelligence, they beg leave to inform the readers of the MONTHLY EPITOME, that it is their intention to enlarge it at the Commencement of the ensuing year.

Communications are received from H. N. R. S. Mr. Parkinson, Mr. Clarke, and several others of our literary friends. Our friend Epitomicus will, we hope, follow up his proposed plan, and let us hear from him often, Politicus, Investigator, and Detector, do not suit our Miscellany, which is of a literary nature.—Communications for this Work are requested to be addressed to the "Editor of the MONTHLY EPITOME and LITERARY MAGAZINE," at Mr. Walker's, No. 44, Paternoster-row, or to Mr. Clarke, No. 38, New Bond-street, before the 18th of each Month, if intended for Insertion in the succeeding Numbers.—Papers on Literary or Scientific Subjects will be preferred to those of a more general Nature.